

STARS AND STRIPES®



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takes overall
lead in Tour**

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Lance Armstrong



**Blooming good time in
Steinfurth, Germany**

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to see insignia go**

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THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2004

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AF reprimands pilot in friendly-fire deaths

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Gmail call

**Computer
geeks work
to provide
Google's
high-storage
e-mail
to troops**

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MORGAN LOOSLI
Stars and Stripes

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COMING
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July 11: Scene

Band kicks it
Scotland style

July 11: Scene

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Moussaoui case: The mental health of terrorism defendant Zacarias Moussaoui is likely to play a significant role if the potential death penalty case in Alexandria, Va., reaches the penalty phase, a government said in a motion Tuesday.

Prosecutors asked a judge for an order that would permit the government to conduct a mental examination — and receive mental health information on Moussaoui — if the defense plans to raise the issue.

The government would only use the evaluation and medical information to rebut any defense strategy to spare Moussaoui the death penalty by citing his mental condition, the motion said.

Fla. teacher shooting: The Florida middle school student convicted of shooting his English teacher to death four years ago has fired his lawyer, saying he wants to represent himself.

Nathaniel Brazil, now 17, is serving a 28-year sentence for killing Lake Worth Middle School teacher Barry Grunow. Brazil turned his gun on Grunow after the teacher refused to let him talk with two girls in his classroom.

Attorney Jack Thompson had taken Brazil's case, hoping to help the teen reduce his sentence. Brazil fired him, saying he wanted to serve as his own lawyer, Thompson said in West Palm Beach.

World

Gaza withdrawal: The Israeli government snubbed an international group of Mideast mediators in the region to discuss Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's plan to withdraw from the Gaza Strip, officials said Wednesday, adding it first wants to discuss the pull-out with a U.S. delegation.

The representatives of the so-called Quartet — the United States, the European Union, the United Nations and Russia — met Wednesday with Palestinian officials, who welcomed the visit.

The group is trying to push forward the Gaza withdrawal plan. It hopes the pullout will be the first step of the internationally backed "road map" peace plan.

Sri Lanka unrest: A Tamil Tiger suicide bomber detonated explosives at a police station Wednesday in Colombo, Sri Lanka, killing four officers in the first such attack in the capital since the rebels signed a cease-fire two years ago, police said.

Seven people were wounded and the bomber was killed in the blast, which occurred across the street from the U.S. and British embassies.

The rebels made no comment on the attack, which threatens the 2002 truce between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and the Sri Lankan government.

Ireland smoking ban: A lone Galway pub has thrown down the gauntlet to the Irish government over its 3-month-old ban on workplace smoking — by inviting customers to rebel and light up.

"We're taking a stand," declared Claran Levazin, co-owner of the Fibber Magee's pub in the central Eyre Square of Galway, where ashtrays returned to tables Tuesday and customers were encouraged to puff away.

marked the first deliberate effort by any of Ireland's more than 10,000 pubs to



Clinton documents: Clinton Presidential Library Director David Alsbrook walks past some material destined for the library Tuesday at the Clinton Presidential Archive warehouse. Former President Clinton will make 100,000 documents of domestic-policy records available to scholars and researchers Nov. 18, the day his presidential library opens, said Skip Rutherford, president of Clinton's nonprofit foundation. The papers make up a tiny part of the 630 tons of Clinton White House records that began the move Tuesday from the warehouse to the archives portion of the \$165 million Clinton Presidential Center.

defy the ban. The measure has been almost universally opposed — and, in a country where 70 percent of adults do not smoke, broadly popular — since its March 29 introduction.

Marine funeral: Mexico apologized for disrupting the military funeral of a U.S. Marine killed in Iraq, but insisted that it had to make sure its laws outlawing foreign troops from carrying weapons on Mexican soil were upheld.

U.S. Ambassador Tony Garza had sent a blistering diplomatic note Tuesday demanding to know why Mexican troops interrupted the funeral Sunday for Lance Cpl. Juan Lopez, who had migrated to the United States from Mexico and was killed west of Baghdad on June 21.

The Mexican soldiers took issue with non-working, ceremonial rifles carried by two Marines who traveled from the United States for the ceremony, but Garza said the Marines had worked everything out beforehand.

SARS crisis: Bowing to pressure over a slow, sloppy response to SARS, Hong Kong's health secretary resigned Wednesday to take blame for the crisis that killed hundreds and caused months of uncertainty and fear in the territory.

Dr. Yeoh Eng-king became a rare political casualty in a territory where critics charge that top aides of Hong Kong's leader, Tung Chee-hwa, often avoid being held accountable for problems.

SARS infected 1,755 people in Hong Kong and killed 299 of them.

Madrid bombings: The Spanish government accused Basque separatists of carrying out the Madrid train bombings — now blamed on Islamic terrorists — before experts had determined what kind of explosives were used, an official testified Wednesday.

Juan Jesus Sanchez Manzano, head of the Interior Ministry's bomb disposal unit, testified in the second day of Spanish parliamentary hearings into the March 11 attack, which killed 190 people.

Sanchez Manzano said the type of explosives used in the blasts — Goma 2 Eco, a kind of dynamite — was not precisely identified until the next morning, after experts had been able to examine a backpack bomb that failed to explode.

Bird flu outbreak: China said Wednesday that wild birds may have sparked a new outbreak of avian flu on a lakeside farm, while Thailand confirmed fresh outbreaks in two central provinces.

The cases in both countries involved the same severe bird flu strain that earlier this year ravaged Asia's poultry industry and jumped to people in Vietnam and Thailand, killing 24. About 100 million chickens across the region were slaughtered to halt its spread.

China's Agriculture Ministry said a farm in Anhui province was quarantined following confirmation on Tuesday of the country's first reported outbreak since it declared it had "stamped out" the disease nearly four months ago.

Russian oil company debt: Former Yukos CEO Mikhail Khodorkovsky has asked the Moscow oil company's board of directors to use his shares and those of other core shareholders to pay the government's tax bill, his lawyer said Wednesday.

Lawyer Anton Dreil told The Associated Press that Khodorkovsky had taken the step in order to "prevent the company's bankruptcy and to prevent damage to the interests of all the workers and shareholders of the company."

Dreil's announcement came just hours after court bailiffs said they were moving to execute the court decision requiring Yukos to pay \$3.4 billion in back taxes for 2000.

Stories and photo from wire services

Correction

A story in Wednesday's editions on the change of command ceremony for the European Regional Dental Command misidentified the outgoing commander. He is Col. Conrad F. Bodai. Col. Sidney A. Brooks is commander of the U.S. Army Dental Command at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Comics, horoscope and
advice every day
in Stars and Stripes

Iraq issues new laws to battle insurgents

Security measures mean Allawi can order martial law

BY DANICA KIRKA
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The Iraqi government issued a long-anticipated package of security laws Wednesday to help crush insurgents, including a provision allowing interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi to impose martial law.

"The lives of the Iraqi people are in danger, they are in danger from evil forces, from gangs of terrorists," said Human Rights Minister Bakhtiyar Amin, who compared the new law to the USA Patriot Act.

As the plan was announced, masked gunmen battled Iraqi forces in central Baghdad, and at least four people were killed. Mortars landed near a residence used by Allawi, and Iraqi police also defused a massive car bomb elsewhere in the capital.

The new laws give Allawi the right to impose curfews, to conduct search operations and detain individuals with weapons, once he receives unanimous approval from the Presidential Council. They also give him the right to assign governors, including military governors, in specific areas, and they empower him to freeze the assets of suspects and monitor their communications.

Allawi signed the law earlier in the day, officials said.

"The law ... is really designed to protect lives in Iraq, whether these lives are Iraqis or friends of Iraq" in the country, Allawi told Associated Press Television News. "We will use the law ... whenever it is necessary to defeat our enemies."

Officials also emphasized the checks built into the new laws to allay fears that they could give Allawi dictatorial powers reminiscent of the deposed regime of Saddam Hussein.



Interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi speaks out against a rocket attack that injured one person near his house in Baghdad on Wednesday. Allawi's government announced a new security law giving itself wider powers to combat militants and stabilize the country.

Justice Minister Malik Dohan al-Hassan said the premier would need to get warrants from an Iraqi court for each step and said martial law could only be declared for 60 days or for the duration of the specific violence, whichever was shorter.

"We realize this law might restrict some liberties, but there are a number of guarantees," al-Hassan said. "We have tried to guarantee justice and also to guarantee human rights."

Amin said the human rights

and justice ministries would form a joint body to monitor areas of the country where the emergency laws are declared.

Allawi and his government had delayed the announcement of the law on several occasions, suggesting some disagreement within the Cabinet over its provisions.

The security dangers were underscored by the violence Wednesday.

Insurgents waged a running gunbattle with Iraqi forces in the

S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Tuesday, 868 U.S. servicemembers have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 646 died as a result of hostile action and 222 died of nonhostile causes. The military did not provide an update over the holiday weekend.

The British military has reported 59 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 730 U.S. servicemembers have died — 537 as a result of hostile action and 193 of nonhostile causes, according to the military as of Friday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ Seven U.S. Marines assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force were killed in western Iraq. Three died Monday and four were killed Tuesday.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Army 2nd Lt. Brian D. Smith, 30, McKinney, Texas; killed Friday in fighting in Habbaniyah, Iraq, assigned to the 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kan.

■ Army Staff Sgt. Stephen G. Martin, 39, Rhinelander, Wis.; died Friday of wounds received June 24 in an explosion in Mosul, Iraq; assigned to the Army Reserves, 330th Military Police Detachment, Sheboygan, Wis.

streets near Martyrs' Square, the Interior Ministry said. Health Ministry official Saad al-Amili said four people were killed and 20 injured in the battle.

U.S. armored personnel carriers moved to the scene of the fighting as two Apache helicopters hovered overhead. Interior Ministry officials said the helicopters fired on nearby buildings.

In another Baghdad neighborhood, four mortar rounds shook a neighborhood near the headquarters of Allawi's political party, wounding six people, an Interior Ministry official said. The attacks on a stretch of Zeitoun Street in central Baghdad also hit near a home used by Allawi, who was not there, the official said.

Iraqi police also defused a car loaded with 1,650 pounds of explosives Wednesday that was parked near the al-Iman mosque in the Karada neighborhood in downtown Baghdad, according to police Col. Adnan Hussein.

Later, an explosion shook the terminal at Baghdad International Airport. There was no immediate word on damage or casualties.

Also Wednesday, Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's group said 100 of its fighters attacked U.S. forces on Monday in Saqlawiya, 43 miles west of the Iraqi capital, according to a statement posted on an Islamic Web site.

The statement did not say how many American soldiers were killed.

The U.S. military on Tuesday announced that three Marines assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force were killed while on duty in western Iraq. Two died in action Monday in Anbar province, while a third died of his wounds later Monday.

Another four U.S. Marines were killed Tuesday in the province during security and stability operations, the U.S. military said.

Purported al-Zarqawi tape offers reasons for beheading

BY MAGGIE MICHAEL
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — The kidnappers of U.S. businessman Nicholas Berg said they refused a ransom and beheaded him to take revenge for what American-led forces had done to Muslims in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to an audiotape issued in the name of the militant leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

The 20-minute tape, which was posted on Islamic Web sites Tuesday, said unidentified people had tried to persuade the kidnappers to spare Berg's life.

"They were ready to give us whatever sums of money we asked ... to save this infidel's life," said the voice, purportedly

that of al-Zarqawi, "but despite our desperate need of money to fund our jihad, we preferred to take revenge for our sisters and our nation."

The voice could not be immediately verified as that of al-Zarqawi, but it sounded like him. The Jordanian militant, whose real name is Ahmad Fadil Nazzal al-Khalayleh, is the most wanted insurgent in Iraq. Allegedly linked to the al-Qaida terror group, he is also wanted by the Jordanian and American authorities. The United States has offered \$25 million for information leading to his capture.

His Tawhid and Jihad group claimed responsibility for the beheading of Berg and South Korean translator Kim Sun-il. It was

also believed to be behind a series of attacks on police and security forces in Iraq that killed 100 people in the days leading up to the coalition forces' handover of power to an Iraqi interim government last month.

The voice on the tape attacked Islamic clerics for criticizing Berg's killing rather than supporting "Muslims in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Palestinian territories and Indonesia."

Muslim religious leaders condemned Berg's execution as un-Islamic. His decapitated body was found May 8 near a highway overpass in Baghdad.

His killers released a videotape, bearing the title "Abu Musab al-Zarqawi shown slaughtering an American," which



Abu Musab al-Zarqawi

showed the actual execution.

U.S. intelligence officials have determined "with high probability" that it was al-Zarqawi himself who beheaded Berg based on an analysis of the voice heard on the video, a CIA official has said on condition of anonymity.

Accident kills GI

BALAD, Iraq — A 13th Corps Support Command soldier was killed and four injured Wednesday in a vehicle accident near Ramadi.

The injured were evacuated by air to a military medical facility at Camp Ramadi. Two of the injured were scheduled to be evacuated to a higher-level medical facility, according to a Coalition Press Information Center release. The name of the facility was not specified.

The name of the dead soldier is being withheld pending notification of next of kin. The accident is under investigation.

The 13th Corps Support Command is out of Fort Hood, Texas.

From staff reports

Pilot fined month's pay for bombing Canadians

Reprimand calls airman's excuse of self-defense a lie

BY KEVIN MCGILL
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The lawyer for a U.S. fighter pilot who mistakenly bombed Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan in 2002, killing four, said he might appeal a verdict that got his client a reprimand and cost him a month's wages.

Maj. Harry Schmidt, 38, was found guilty Tuesday of dereliction of duty and was docked nearly \$5,700 in pay.

Schmidt "acted shamefully" during the episode, "exhibiting arrogance and a lack of flight discipline," Air Force Lt. Gen. Bruce Carlson wrote in the reprimand.

Charles Gittins, Schmidt's civilian lawyer, repeated his claim that Schmidt was made a scapegoat for his commanders' poor planning. He said the reprimand amounted to an unfair conviction for murder.

Schmidt, a former instructor at the Navy's "Top Gun" fighter pilot school, had blamed the

bombing on the "fog of war," saying he "mistook the Canadians' gunfire for an attack by Taliban forces."

He said his superiors never told him the Canadians would be conducting live-fire exercises near Kandahar airport that night.

He was originally charged with manslaughter and aggravated assault, but the charges were reduced last year to dereliction of duty.

Carlson said Schmidt had become impatient waiting for permission from air controllers to attack what he believed was Taliban artillery. He was warned to "make sure it's not friendlies" before firing.

The reprimand said Schmidt should have taken evasive action rather than attack what he believed was Taliban artillery. He was warned to "make sure it's not friendlies" before firing.

"If what Gen. Carlson claimed were true — that Harry used self-defense as a pretext and reck-



U.S. Air Force Maj. Harry Schmidt and his wife, Lisa, drive past a security checkpoint last month at Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Ill., for a meeting with officials. Schmidt, a U.S. fighter pilot who mistakenly bombed Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan in 2002, killing four, was found guilty Tuesday of dereliction of duty.

lessly released ordinance without legal justification — that constitutes unpemitted murder," Gittins said in a statement.

Gittins also has said an Air Force-issued amphetamine given to pilots to help them stay awake on long missions might have impaired the pilot's judgment. How-

ever, Col. Richard Harding, a judge advocate general with the Air Force, said Gittins presented no evidence regarding the pills in last week's hearing.

Schmidt's mission commander, Maj. William Umbach, who was in a second F-16, also was charged with assault and man-

slaughter. Those charges were dismissed last summer, and he was reprimanded for "leadership failures" and allowed to retire.

The case against the two Illinois National Guardsmen has been closely watched in Canada, where many were outraged by the bombing and the two days it took President Bush to publicly apologize.

The four soldiers who died were the first Canadians killed in combat since the Korean War. Eight others were wounded.

Maureen Decaire, mother of one of the Canadians injured in the bombing, said she understands that Schmidt did not intend to cause harm, but the decision still leaves her unsatisfied.

"I would like to see him accept responsibility, which I don't think has happened," she said from Winnipeg.

Schmidt was found guilty after a closed, nonjudicial hearing held last week at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana. The Air Force had announced earlier in the month that it would not court-martial Schmidt; he could have gotten up to six months in prison if convicted at a court-martial.

Schmidt remains in the Air National Guard but has agreed never to fly Air Force jets again.

Web site seeks to offer troops Google's high-storage e-mail

BY SANDRA JONTZ
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — There appears to be such a throng of a free lunch for deployed troops and their families.

Now it's a matter of feeding them, too to speak. Some self-professed computer geeks have joined to give deployed troops access to inboxes for Google's free e-mail service, Gmail, which offers an unprecedented one gigabyte of storage that will let them share photographs and videos across the Internet.

Gmail is currently available to the public only through the much-coveted invitations, which let users test it out as Google experiments with the software. Demand for the invitations is so high that they are being auctioned on eBay, and Internet sites have popped up where people barter deeds — mostly good deeds — in exchange for an invitation.

Now, invitations for the free e-mail accounts are available for troops overseas, particularly those serving in combat zones, said Anne Mitchell, president and CEO of the California-based consulting firm Institute for Spam and Internet Public Policy.

To register, troops need to log on to www.Gmail4troops.com and select "request an invite."

"We've heard from some of the troops who said they came from their wife, and it wiped out their entire storage space, or a new photo would delete an older one. [Gmail] has a gig of storage, and troops can see clips of home movies, clips of their babies when their first steps, or their children's graduations," Mitchell said.

While the accounts are available to all service members, "we are giving priority to those in the Iraq and Afghanistan and we ask them to let us know if they are enlisted, warrant officer, or officer, what unit they're in and where they are stationed," she said.

"We ask if they are enlisted or not because, though they are enlisted, we have more requests than donations, we want to start triaging so that the enlist-

ed troops on the ground, those who really stretch the dollar and feel the pinch, so it gets in their hands first."

Gmail is still in the beta phase and while Google plans to make it public, those plans are not immediate, a Google representative said. A criticism of the service is that its users will be targeted with advertisements based on profiles and e-mail usage and the accounts can become a repository of personal information, to include information about troop locations.

Gmail4troops.com started when Drew Olano, who works for an Internet consulting firm in Pennsylvania and is regular reader of actor Wil Wheaton's blogsite, e-mailed the actor to trade a coveted invitation for Wheaton's commitment to solicit others to donate invites for troops deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait.

Wheaton, best known for playing Ensign Wesley Crusher in the TV series "Star Trek: The Next Generation" from 1987 to 1990, agreed, and he was inundated with responses, Mitchell said. Two days later, the two started Gmail4troops.com and brought in Mitchell to pair donated invitations with troops' requests.

The anticipated flood of requests didn't come, she said.

"We have several thousand accounts donated, and while we've already given out several hundred, we date him difficulty getting the word out to troops," Mitchell said.

Olano said he got the idea from a soldier serving in Afghanistan, who pleaded for an invitation after "thumping" a swap site where people promised to trade goods and services. He thought, heck, troops already were serving their good deeds, and he pitched in to help, he said.

eBay, the online auction site, started selling the in-demand invitations a few months ago, when prices peaked at roughly \$60, an eBay representative said. As the number of Gmail account listings on eBay has increased over the past few months, it's now in the \$80s — the listing prices have dropped and now range from 99 cents to \$20 for multiple invitations.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@stripes.osd.mil

U.S. discloses it hauled radioactive material found in ab from Iraq

BY H. JOSEF HEBERT
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a secret operation, the United States last month removed from Iraq nearly two tons of uranium and hundreds of highly radioactive items that could have been used in a so-called dirty bomb, the Energy Department disclosed.

The nuclear material was secured from Iraq's former nuclear research facility and airlifted out of the country to an undisclosed Energy Department laboratory for further analysis, the department said in a statement Tuesday.

Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham described the previously undisclosed operation, which was concluded June 23, as "a major achievement" in an attempt to "keep potentially dangerous nuclear material out of the hands of terrorists."

The haul included a "huge range" of radioactive items used for medical and industrial purposes, said Bryan Wilkes, a spokesman for the Energy Department's National Nuclear Security Administration.

Much of the material "was in powdered form, which is easily dispersed," said Wilkes.

The statement provided only scant details about the material taken from Iraq, but it included "roughly 1,000 highly radioactive sources" that "could potentially be used in a radiolo-

gical dispersal device," or dirty bomb.

Also ferried out of Iraq was 1.95 tons of low-enriched uranium, the department said.

Wilkes said "a huge range of different isotopes" were secured in the joint Energy Department and Defense Department operation. They had been used in Iraq for a range of medical and industrial purposes, such as testing oil wells and pipelines.

Uranium is not suitable for making a dirty bomb. But some of the other radioactive material, including cesium-137, cobalt-60 and strontium — could have been valuable to a terrorist seeking to build a terror weapon.

Such a device would not trigger a nuclear explosion, but would use conventional explosives to spread radioactive debris. While few people would probably be killed or seriously affected by the radiation, such an explosion could cause panic, make a section of a city uninhabitable for years by a terrorist, and require cumbersome and expensive cleanup.

A recent study by researchers at the University of Nonprofit Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies concluded it is "all but certain" that some kind of dirty bomb will be used by a terrorist group in the years ahead. There are just too many radioactive sources available across the globe, the report said.

Despite congressional worries about troops, Pentagon holds fast in denying need for draft

By Lisa Burgess
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Despite lawmakers' concerns that military forces have been stressed "nearly to the breaking point" by rotations in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Bush administration has no intention of bringing back the draft, senior Pentagon officials told House members Wednesday.

Reserve soldiers, in particular, have been pushed "nearly to the breaking point" by rotations to Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, Missouri Rep. Ike Skelton, ranking Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee, said in a Wednesday hearing about troop rotations.

The United States "has a moral duty to see our duty through in Iraq and Afghanistan," Skelton said. At the same time, however, U.S. troops "are our most precious commodity ...

our sons and daughters. They are not pawns on a chessboard." "I'm worried," Skelton said. "We're asking very few to exert an enormous sustained effort for the good of all of us."

Skelton characterized as "drastic measures" the steps the Pentagon has taken to man the ongoing rotations.

Those actions have included stop-loss provisions that have prevented

deployed soldiers from voluntarily leaving the Army; repeat rotations for many active units, including the 3rd Infantry Division, the 10th Mountain Division and the 101st Airborne Division; surprise extensions of already

year-long deployments for the 1st Armored Division and others in Iraq; and most recently, the involuntary call-up of 5,600 members of the Inactive Ready Reserves for the first time since Desert Storm.

But David Chu, undersecretary of Defense for personnel and readiness, took issue with Skelton's assertion.

"I would not call these measures a last resort," Chu told the committee members.

As for the IRR call-up, "the fact that it is rare does not mean that it's inappropriate," Chu said.

Moreover, "the administration does not support a resumption of the draft," Chu told committee members.

But Rep. Curt Weldon, R-Pa., alleged that Democrats are working to convince voters otherwise in an attempt to influence the outcome of the November presidential election.

During Wednesday's hearing,

Weldon claimed from an e-mail he read "is being sent nationwide," that he said insists that "Just after the 2004 presidential elections, as early as spring 2005, the administration [will] quietly try to get ... two bills introduced to reinstate the draft, while the public's attention is on the elections."

Weldon angrily posted the e-mail "politically posturing ... to scare college students."

Chu moved quickly to repudiate the e-mail's assertions, saying "there is no secret plan" to reinstate the draft.

The strength of today's U.S. military, Chu said, rests on its all-volunteer nature, and "I cannot see the merit of replacing these fine volunteers with people who don't want to volunteer."

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld has also repeatedly insisted that he has no intention of reinstating the draft, Chu said.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: burgess@stripes.osd.mil



Chu

Bush picks nominee for Army secretary

By Scott Lindlaw
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A defense industry executive and ex-cousin of President Bush's pick for secretary of the Army.

Bush is to nominate Francis J. Harvey to the post, which has been held for more than a year by a temporary appointee, a senior administration official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the nomination had not been announced.

Bush had previously nominated Francis J. Harvey, a former Westinghouse Electric Co. executive, to be the Defense Department's chief information officer.

Harvey would replace Thomas E. White, who resigned under pressure last year after repeated clashes with Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

An earlier nominee, current Air Force Secretary James Roche, withdrew his name from consideration earlier this year when the nomination faced opposition in the Senate.

Bush had previously nominated Harvey, a former top executive at Westinghouse Electric Co., to be the Defense Department's chief information officer.

Harvey held several management and executive positions at Westinghouse, which had an extensive defense electronics business, from the 1960s to 1997. He holds a doctorate in metallurgy and material sciences from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor's degree in science from the University of Notre Dame.

Les Brownlee has been serving as acting Army Corp. secretary since White, a former Enron Corp. executive, resigned in May 2003. White had clashed with Rumsfeld on a number of issues related to Rumsfeld's plans for transforming the military, including the Army's plans for the Crusader artillery system.

Rumsfeld canceled the Crusader, saying it was too heavy and cumbersome for the lighter, more agile Army he envisioned.

Army commanders punished over Iraq drowning

The Associated Press

FORT CARSON, Colo. — The U.S. Army has given nonjudicial punishments to three commanders linked to the drowning of an Iraqi civilian, saying they conspired to impede a homicide investigation.

Capt. Matthew Cunningham, Maj. Robert Gwinnier and Lt. Col. Nathan Sassaman were punished this spring under Article 15, which does not require a court proceeding or public

record, the Army said Tuesday.

The Army would not disclose the punishments, citing privacy laws, but there was no criminal conviction or prison time.

Last week, the military said three other soldiers based at Fort Carson had been charged with involuntary manslaughter in the Jan. 3 drowning of 19-year-old Iraqi detainee Zaidoun Fadel Hassoun in the Tigris River. A fourth soldier is charged with pushing a second man, who survived, into the river.

First Lt. Jack M. Saville, Sgt. 1st Class Tracy E. Perkins, Sgt. Reggie Martinez and Spc. Terry Bowman Jr. face a July 22 hearing.

They are based at the 3rd Brigade Combat Team based at Fort Carson.

The military says Saville and Perkins conspired with Sassaman, Gwinnier and Cunningham to mislead investigators by denying the Iraqis were shoved into the river.

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Beyond the borders of Kabul

U.S., NATO forces must strike balance in areas like Herat

By Ward Sanderson
Stars and Stripes

HERAT, Afghanistan — Men in Old Testament robes smiled toothily inside the school, hands on hearts, greeting the Western guests dressed in bulletproof vests.

It's not only a new school, but also a teachers' academy in Afghanistan that will train women as well as men.

"That's kind of one of the stipulations, that the girls all get a crack at this," said Sgt. 1st Class Shannon Para, a U.S. civil affairs soldier and a mother of four, as she rattled away from the site aboard an old Iranian airlines shuttle bus.

The Army's small provincial reconstruction team helped the U.S. Agency for International Development and the International Organization for Migration make the school a reality. The banner on the building reads, "Learn from birth until death." Regarding women, the Taliban certainly would have disagreed.

The U.S. soldiers in Herat soon may have international help. As NATO installs its own reconstruction teams in the north and eyes Afghanistan's west, it intends to meet the Americans in Herat. They didn't announce when, but alliance leaders at last month's NATO Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, decided to send a few hundred troops to Herat to form a logistics hub for the alliance's westward expansion, and plan to set up a quick-reaction force to deploy in case of trouble.

Trouble is, there's plenty of it. In March, forces loyal to the



PETER JAEGER/Stars and Stripes

local governor and warlord engaged those of President Hamid Karzai. The governor's son was killed. In the neighboring province of Badghis, the military says it faces government corruption, drug production and the possibility of Taliban training centers. Five aid workers with Doctors Without Borders were assassinated there June 2. In the appropriately named province of Ghowar, a warlord seized control last month, reportedly clashing with government troops and U.S. and New Zealand units. Afghan soldiers took back the provincial capital by month's end.

Considering all this, the 70 or so U.S. soldiers in Herat will likely welcome NATO neighbors.

"It can get awful lonely here," said Lt. Col. James Hand, the PRT commander. Hand calls Badghis in particular the "wild, wild West."

As the sign on the new school implores, the Americans here said the Afghans love and thirst for education. But some of the professional fighters have no skills



PHOTOS BY WARD SANDERSON/Stars and Stripes

Above: "Learn from birth to death" is the motto of a new teachers' academy in the town of Herat, Afghanistan. A U.S. Army-run provincial reconstruction team helped sponsor the center's founding.

other than brandishing a Kalashnikov and some don't want any.

"There is a hard-core group of mujahadeen who only want to carry around an AK-47 and stand around and look important," Hand said.

Herat itself in some ways is a paradox. It is conservative but apparently accepting of reforms such as the new school. It is remote but under the rule of a Kabul-appointed governor, Ismail Khan. But Khan is also a warlord whose power existed before it was made official by Karzai. And though trucks kick up grit as they haul bearded men toting machine guns, there also is the Herat Tourist Hotel, all shiny and glass, a shrunken slice of Vegas.

It was Khan's forces that took on Karzai's troops here in March. What apparently began as a fender bender involving government soldiers and Khan's men turned bloody. Apparently believing the accident had been a setup to ambush his father, Khan's son led at attack against an Afghan military outpost. These locals showed up driving tanks.

"They had their own private war," said Maj. Gen. Wolfgang Korte, the German deputy commander of NATO's International Security Assistance Force.

Warlords aren't going anywhere yet. They are too powerful, and some, like Khan, remain popular at home.

"Frankly, there is no choice but to deal with them," said Canadian Cmdr. Chris Henderson, the NATO spokesman in Kabul.

When asked whether dealing with warlords means endorsing the drug trade, ISAF's deputy operations and planning officer said that's not the case.

"I wouldn't read that into it," Canadian Lt. Col. Kent Davis said. "We talk to everyone."

The supreme commander of NATO, U.S. Marine Corps Gen.



Below: Gen. James L. Jones, center, NATO's top officer, speaks with Iceland's Col. Hali Sigurdsson, commander of Kabul International Airport. Jones also visited American troops in Herat.

James L. Jones, said the drug problem is that of the emerging Afghan government. The alliance, Jones said during a recent visit, must focus on fighting terrorism and building the Afghan National Army.

"It's a delicate issue. ... It's a problem that's got to be addressed by someone," Jones said. "But not by him, at least not yet."

"I am not in the drug business," he said. "That's not the NATO mission."

Though officials often minimize any connection between terrorism and poppy production, the Americans on duty in Herat have found otherwise. Maj. Rick Marx, commander of the civil affairs effort there, said that poppy production precedes Taliban resurgence in areas like Badghis. And a local farmer can make \$250,000 a year from poppies.

Jones said the big challenge is

wearing Afghans off the crop without providing another option.

"It's got to be replaced by other economic activity," he said.

Marx said working in Afghanistan's wild, wild West still is worthwhile. "Here, if you build a bridge, you may connect seven villages to Herat, which has a hospital. It's very rewarding." From the roof of his small base, Marx watched Khan's forces battle the Afghan government troops, artillery flashes in the distance. But on this day, there is no fighting. Only visiting foreigners with cameras.

Two women in burqas on an adjacent rooftop see the cameras. The women turn their backs. But they turned around again, and not with anger or offense.

They had instead removed their veils and looked back, faces in the afternoon sun, waiting for the cameras.

E-mail reporter Ward Sanderson at: sandersonw@mail.strips.osd.mil



A French soldier wears bomb squad protection in Kabul, Afghanistan. Such international troops are expanding their NATO mission into areas outside the capital.

Reaction mixed to warrant officer changes

Rising Eagle insignia to make way for variety of Army branch markings

BY JON R. ANDERSON
Stars and Stripes

HEIDELBERG, Germany — Army warrant officers will gather Friday to celebrate the 86th anniversary of their corps and usher in changes to their uniforms.

Beginning Friday, all Army warrants will replace the corps insignia, the Rising Eagle that has been the mark of an Army warrant since 1921, with the wide variety of branch insignias worn by the rest of the officer corps. Now, for example, warrants specializing in communications will wear the Signal Corps insignia.

While some say the changes are positive, others see it as a loss of cherished tradition.

"Warrant officers traditionally have not been treated as part of the officer corps. We've kind of been in this strange gray area between the noncommissioned officer and the regularly commissioned branch officer," Chief Warrant Officer 5 Albert Eggerton, the Army's warrant officer personnel policy integrator, said in an Army statement announcing the change in the spring.

Still, some are sad to see the Rising Eagle retired.



The Rising Eagle

"There's certain nostalgia involved in the Rising Eagle," said retired Chief Warrant Officer 3 Bud Colburn, who now works as a civilian with the 66th Military Intelligence Group in Darmstadt. "It's easily recognizable and there's a proud history there. With the loss of that, there will be something missing."

But, adds Colburn, "if this is a way of bringing pay parity up to the front and bringing more professional education and leadership opportunities, then the loss of the Rising Eagle is just one of the prices you have to pay."

The change is "very controversial with strong positions on both sides," said Chief Warrant Offi-

Welcoming ceremony

The warrant officer welcoming ceremony will be Friday from 11 a.m. to noon in the Patch Chapel, Building 2305, at Patch Barracks in Stuttgart, Germany.

All central European-based Army warrant officers — active duty, Reserve, National Guard and retired — are invited. All Army participants should wear Class A uniforms.

For additional information contact: Warrant Officer Rob Brister, DSN 431-2981 or by e-mail at robert.brister@us.army.mil; Chief Warrant Officer 2 Nelly McKay, DSN 430-6567 or by e-mail at mckayn@eucom.mil; Chief Warrant Officer 3 Dave Rocha, DSN 430-7019 or by e-mail at dave.rocha@eucom.mil.

er 3 Dave Rocha, a communications expert in Stuttgart.

"The warrant officer insignia has come to be recognized as the symbol of the tactically and technically proficient officers of the Army — the seasoned experts within a given field," he said. "Problem is, when you look at the insignia you don't know what that given field is."

The change will help solve that.

It comes amid a wider overhaul of the warrant program, stemming from years of debate within the community and the Army as a whole.

"The Army must make fundamental changes in the warrant officer cohort to support full spectrum operations," reads a July 2002 Army study. "At the heart of this change is a complete integration of WOs into the larger officer corps — a process begun in the late 1980s and never completed."

Army leaders say they want to do just that. The Army message announcing the change in March stated the insignia swap is "a first step toward the full integration of warrant officer recruiting, accession, education and management into the branch-based systems of the larger officer corps."

Warrants are now fully commissioned when they pin on chief warrant officer, putting them in the same legal standing as their "regular" officer counterparts, and allowing them to command units.

"For me, it's a good thing because it will afford warrants greater opportunities for training as well as full recognition for what they've been doing for several years now," Rocha said. "We're going to finally get acknowledged for what we have been doing for the Army."

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Firefighter honored

NAPLES, Italy — Fire Inspector Larry Beal of Naval Support Activity Naples was recently selected as the Navy's civilian firefighter of the year runner-up.

Beal, as part of the base's fire rescue division and fire prevention and education branch, does everything from enforcing fire code regulations to teaching fire prevention classes.

In his nomination, Beal was recognized for various public fire education initiatives that directly reached more than 80 percent of the Naples and Gaeta communities — about 8,000 people.

He also developed and instituted juvenile fire starter and National Fire Protection Association risk watch programs.

Beal has worked with area Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to promote fire safety by using a fire safety trailer that teaches kids how to escape from a smoke-filled room.

Beal will join other winners from throughout the Navy and Marine Corps at an awards ceremony Aug. 16 in New Orleans.



Beal

From staff reports

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RON JENSEN/Stars and Stripes

Lt. Col. Rich Cordell, right, deputy commander of the 100th Operations Group at RAF Mildenhall, England, shows off the base's new tower to David Hastings, an honorary commander at the base. The tower complex was officially opened in a ceremony Wednesday.

RAF Mildenhall is back in business

BY RON JENSEN

Stars and Stripes

RAF MILDENHALL, England — As this base in eastern England marks 70 years of service this week, Wednesday will be one of its more memorable days.

For the first time in nearly five months, a fixed-wing aircraft touched down on the runway, which has been undergoing renovation since March.

And watching as the KC-135 Stratotanker landed were more than 200 people who gathered to dedicate a \$15 million operations facility that includes a nine-story control tower and a modern, spacious firehouse.

"It's an exciting day for our base," Col. Richard Devereaux, commander of the 100th Air Refueling Wing, said in remarks to the audience that included military members and local officials from neighboring towns.

The base was opened on Oct. 16, 1934, as the winds of war were blowing on the continent. It was home to a bomber unit that launched sorties just six hours after war was declared on Sept. 3, 1939.

The U.S. Air Force arrived at the base in 1951. The wing is celebrating the base's heritage throughout the year, which was an undercurrent of the ceremony on Wednesday.

The smoke that curled from the tires of the KC-135 as they touched the new concrete was a sign that business is returning to normal at RAF Mildenhall after a \$15 million makeover to the runway. Since March, the airplanes have been flying from RAF Fairford, about 200 miles away.

"Five months later, it was so sweet to touch down on that runway," said Col. Bryan Benson, who flew the aircraft that landed Wednesday. Benson, commander of the 100th Operations Group, commanded the 500 people deployed to RAF Fairford.

Over the next few weeks, more aircraft will return until operations are back to normal in late July or early August, about one month earlier than originally planned.

Despite that triumph, the star of the day was the new facility, called an operations and crash fire rescue complex. Besides the tower and firefighting area, it includes an area for mission planning and airfield management.

Chief among the upgrades is a weather observation system that allows forecasters to gather a wide range of data with a single machine.

The tower is the most obvious addition to the base, standing 123 feet high and sticking out like a sore thumb on the flat English landscape. It replaces a tower that was only two stories high and built more than 50 years ago.

Airman 1st Class William MacArthur, a controller with the 100th Operations Support Squadron, said the added height allows controllers to better observe aircraft moving about on the ground.

The old tower was constantly upgraded with new technology, but the new one has even more modern air traffic control equipment. MacArthur pointed out a system that measures wind speed and direction at both ends of the runway.

"You can get within five seconds measurements that are exactly right on," he said.

Currently, MacArthur said, the new tower has only one problem. The elevator isn't working.

For the 24 firemen, the new facility "rocks," said Master Sgt. Mike Amacker, deputy fire chief.

The old fire station had been enlarged time and again over decades, making it an inefficient building, he said. That has been corrected in the new building, designed from the beginning as a fire station.

"Every room, for one thing, empties out into the main bay so the guys can go to the trucks immediately," he said.

It provides better facilities for cleaning and maintaining equipment and "vastly improved living conditions," he said.

In his remarks, Devereaux said, "It's the kind of facility our troops deserve."

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Aviano team kicks in for charity

Base soccer players participate in fund-raising tournament

BY KENT HARRIS

Stars and Stripes

PIANTE D'AVIANO, Italy — For the third straight year, the base soccer team at Aviano is donating a day on the pitch to help bring some sunshine to needy kids.

The team will be one of 15 taking part in a daylong tournament Sunday in a nearby community to raise money to bring more than two dozen kids from Belarus to Italy. The tournament, put on by the group Il Sole Dopo La Nube — or the Sun After the Cloud — has been generating funds for more than a decade. Most of the teams come from organizations in the Aviano area.

Lorenzo Torres, an Air Force master sergeant with the 31st Lo-

gistics Readiness Squadron, said it's the last chance for the team to have some competition for the season — and it helps out a good cause at the same time.

But the brand of soccer is a bit different than what most of the Americans are used to. Because so many teams need to play so many games in a short period of time, the games are limited to 10 minutes each. And each squad consists of only seven players.

"It's really fast-paced," said Torres, who will serve as coach and also play. Though most members play on the base's men's team, they'll also have a member of the women's squad — Rebecca Lasch — on their side.

Action, which starts at 9:30 a.m., should end around nightfall with the championship game.

Torres said the base team hasn't done all that well in the past, but he's hopeful they'll advance further this year.

"We always get stuck with the heavy teams," he said.

Teams are playing in the tournament to raise money to bring children from Belarus — still having health problems after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster of 1986 — into Italy for a short stay in a healthier environment. Food booths will be set up at the event, with proceeds going to the effort. Donations also will be accepted at the tournament.

The fields are located behind a church less than a mile from Area 1 on the road leading to Castello d'Aviano.

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Signonella residents asked to conserve water

BY KENDRA HELMER

Stars and Stripes

Residents of a Signonella, Sicily, housing area are being asked to conserve water following a shortage.

Last week, the owner of Mino Housing Area imposed water hours on about 300 homes. Residents were asked to shut off their water a couple of hours a day.

The problem was resolved Friday, when the contractor agreed to lift the hours and truck in additional water if needed, said Lt. Steve Curry, spokesman for Naval Air Station Signonella.

"The water supply that we get from the Mino consortium wasn't the best quality, so it was bogging down the filtration system," Curry said in a telephone interview.

The contractor cleaned the filters but still was not

able to produce enough water to meet the demand. The contractor drew water from the reserve tanks and then imposed water hours to ensure those tanks didn't dry up.

The problem was compounded by excessive water usage, Cmdr. Bob Gibbs, Signonella's public works officer, wrote in the base newspaper. He said the average American family uses about five times the amount of water as a Sicilian family.

The base is urging residents to conserve water by following these tips:

- Water the lawn early in the morning.
- Run the sprinkler for 30 minutes.
- Don't leave sprinklers or hoses unattended.
- Close the bath drain before turning water on.
- Maintain full dishwasher and laundry loads.
- Repair dripping faucets.

E-mail Kendra Helmer at: helmerk@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Housing office hours

NAPLES, Italy — The Naval Support Activity Naples Housing Department offices in Grignano and Capodichino, the Teverola housing warehouse and the hous-

ing office in Gaeta will be closed for most of Friday for an official function.

The Naples offices and warehouse will close at 11:30 a.m. and Gaeta's office will close at 10:30 a.m.

Housing emergencies will still be taken, either at the NSA Naples quarterdeck at DSN 826-5547 or at civilian 061-568-5547, or at Gaeta at 0771-709-6991.

From staff reports

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| 17 July | Aviano AB, Italy |
| 19 July | Ramstein AB and Sembach AB, Germany |
| 20 July | Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany |

STARS & STRIPES



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IN THE WORLD

Israel worried about Iran's nuclear plans, U.N. inspector says

BY GEORGE JAHN
The Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — Israel is extremely concerned about Iran's nuclear ambitions, the head of the U.N. atomic watchdog agency said Wednesday, an indication that the issue is preventing any change in Israel's nuclear policy.

"They're expressing concern about Iran," Mohamed El-Baradei, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, said after talks with senior officials at Israel's secretive nuclear energy agency.

El-Baradei arrived in Israel on Tuesday to pitch for a Middle East free of nuclear weapons. Israel refuses to discuss its nuclear capacities, but it is thought to be the only state in the Middle East possessing nuclear weapons.

Later Wednesday, El-Baradei was scheduled to meet with the Israeli health minister and take an aerial tour over the country.

While expected to go into details about his talks, El-Baradei indicated Wednesday that fear that Tehran was trying to develop nuclear arms was a dominant theme.

El-Baradei's agency is probing nearly two decades of suspect nuclear activities in Iran that the

United States, Israel and others say reflect attempts to make such weapons.

Tehran insists it only wants nuclear energy to generate power, but several IAEA reports over the past year have suggested the Islamic Republic has not fully cooperated with agency inspectors and has failed to clear up suspicions about its aims.

El-Baradei has suggested that the Israelis should at least consider loosening their taboo on talking about nuclear arms as part of any long-term Middle East settlement that would rid the region of such weapons.

He acknowledged Tuesday that he had no "magic wand" to change Israel's policy of so-called nuclear ambiguity.

"But in the long run you need to build a system, where nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction will not be part of your security structure," he said.

In Washington, Secretary of State Colin Powell declined to take a stand Tuesday on whether Israel should be forced to open its reactors to inspection.

But Powell, at a joint news conference with Israeli Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom, renewed his demand for international pressure on Iran to stop what Washington says are attempts to build nuclear arms.

Earlier Tuesday, Israel Army Radio rebroadcast comments made in May by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who said he would not budge from the country's traditional "no show, no tell" policy.



A Yemeni soldier patrols the perimeter of the central courthouse in Sana'a, Yemen, on Wednesday. After several delays, the trial of suspects in the October 2000 attack on the USS Cole began amid tight security. Seventeen U.S. sailors died in the attack.

AP

USS Cole bombing trial begins

Six Yeminiis charged in attack that killed 17 sailors

BY AHMED AL HAJ

The Associated Press

SANA, Yemen — A security court Wednesday opened the first trial in the bombing of the USS Cole, charging six Yeminiis with planning the October 2000 attack, claiming they were members of Osama bin Laden's terrorist network.

Seventeen American sailors were killed when two suicide bombers in an explosives-laden boat rammed the USS Cole as it refueled in the southern Yemeni port city of Aden. The bombing was blamed on al-Qaida.

Among the six charged in Sana'a Wednesday was accused mastermind Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, who is in U.S. custody, but it was unclear where. The other five were in court Wednesday.

Al-Nashiri was accused of planning and funding the attack and training the cell members who

carried it out.

The United States announced al-Nashiri's arrest in November 2002, saying he had been detained in an undisclosed country and transferred to American custody. Western diplomats later identified the country as the United Arab Emirates, and Emirates officials confirmed that in December 2002.

U.S. officials believe the Saudi-born al-Nashiri is a close associate of bin Laden. In addition to the Cole attack, he is suspected of helping direct the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. U.S. officials claim al-Nashiri gave telephone orders to

the Cole bombers from the Emiratis.

An official at the U.S. Embassy in Yemen declined to comment on the trial and did not disclose al-Nashiri's whereabouts nor say whether he would be handed over to Yemeni authorities.

As the off-delayed trial began, Judge Najib al-Qaderi read a list of charges that included forming an armed gang to carry out criminal acts against the interests of the state, belonging to al-Qaida, resisting authorities and forging documents.

The defendants present refused to plead and asked for lawyers.



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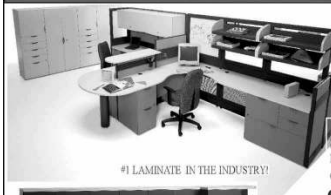
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No serious injuries in 1st day of bull runs



Runners try to keep ahead of the bulls during Wednesday's San Fermin bull run in Pamplona, Spain.

The Associated Press

PAMPLONA, Spain — Several people were trampled but not seriously hurt Wednesday as thousands took part in the first bull run of the San Fermin festival, dashing along the slippery cobblestone streets of this ancient city in northern Spain.

"Running ahead of bulls is life and I wanted to feel alive," said Ray Sabbatini, 36, of Wisconsin, who suffers from multiple sclerosis and was accompanied by his friend Dennis Rodman, the retired National Basketball League star.

None of the runners was gored, and only four injuries were serious enough to require treatment. Two bulls skidded and fell, as did some runners after a night of rain left the streets slick.

For all the hype, the actual run is just 900 yards and lasts little more

than two minutes from the starting corral to the finish in the bull ring.

Runners dressed in the traditional white shirts and trousers with red scarves. Many ran ahead of the five bulls from the Torrestrella ranch, staying as close as possible without risking getting gored.

The bulls run continue daily, starting at 8 a.m. through July 14.

The San Fermin festival, renowned for its all-night street parties, dates back to the late 16th century. But it gained worldwide fame from Ernest Hemingway's 1926 novel "The Sun Also Rises."

The bulls were originally run through town to get them to the ring for bullfights held each afternoon of the festival. But over the years, it has become popular to run in front of the beasts.

The last fatality was an American killed in 1995.

EU gives Britain warning against punishing cross-border shoppers

The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The European Union on Wednesday warned Britain to stop taxing and seizing goods from British shoppers bringing home cheaper alcohol and tobacco products from other EU countries, threatening legal action if the policy is not changed in two months.

The EU head office has been pushing Britain to change its customs policy, which union officials say violates the right of consumers to import goods for per-

sonal use without having it taxed again in Britain.

Taxes on alcohol and cigarettes are much cheaper in France and Belgium than in Britain, and British authorities say their customs policies are needed to keep a lid on smugglers who import goods from Europe for commercial resale.

But "we still do not see eye to eye on the penalties applied for minor offenses," said Frits Bolkestein, the EU's commissioner in charge of taxation and cus-

tomers union issues.

The Commission said it would take Britain to court if the country continues to ignore its demands, a move that could lead to hefty fines for London for disobeying EU internal market rules.

EU spokesman Jonathan Todd said British efforts to curb smuggling of alcohol and cheap tobacco from France for commercial goods was acceptable, but said doing so against legitimate consumers was "disproportionate."



At Shish, a trendy restaurant in North London, offers diners the opportunity to learn if they are descended from rampaging Mongol leader Genghis Khan and win a free meal if they are.

The kin of Khan?

London restaurant offers DNA test for link to Mongol leader with free meal as a prize

BY JILL LAWLESS

The Associated Press

LONDON — A London restaurant is offering diners the chance to learn whether they are descended from the rampaging Mongol ruler Genghis Khan — and win a free meal if they are.

The promotion by the restaurant Shish has proved surprisingly popular, exemplifying how Genghis Khan, once reviled in the West as a tyrant, has gained new respect in his own country and among academics.

"We've had Mongolian people who've traveled across London to give us their details," said Hugo Malik, bar manager of Shish, which is giving away one DNA test at each of its two London branches every day through Friday. "They said, 'Grandad always used to tell us we were descended from Genghis Khan.'"

Grandad may have been right. Oxford Ancestors, the firm doing the testing, says 16 to 17 million men in Central Asia share a term of Y chromosomes within their genetic sequences that indicates probable descent from Genghis Khan, who conquered vast tracts of Asia and Europe in the 12th and 13th centuries and sired many offspring.

"He was an all-conquering tribal leader," said David Ashworth, a geneticist who is Oxford Ancestors' chief executive. "He took their cities, he took their land, he took their women."

Lacking any tissue samples from Genghis Khan, the tests are based on an assessment of probabilities.

The tests are part of the burgeoning field of bioarchaeology, which uses biological techniques to learn about our ancient ancestors. Founded four years ago by Oxford University geneticist Bryan Sykes, Oxford Ancestors offers DNA testing to people around the world eager to trace their genetic roots.

Sykes believes DNA can be used to map humanity's common ancestry. In 1994, he extracted DNA from the Iceman, a frozen 5,000-year-old corpse found in the Tyrolean Alps, and identified a woman living in Britain as his descendant.

Shish, a trendy diner specializing in grilled kebabs inspired by the cooking of Central Asia and the Middle East, says it is offering the tests in honor of the Mongolian government's decision to reintroduce surnames.

ARMY EUROPE

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IN THE STATES

Kerry, Edwards hit campaign trail together

BY LIZ SIDOTI
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — An upbeat John Kerry campaigned for the first time with running mate John Edwards on Wednesday and boasted that the Democratic team has a “better vision, better ideas” than its Republican counterpart and joked, “We’ve got better hair.”

One day after Kerry chose Edwards as the vice presidential candidate, the two senators offered glowing critiques of each other at a downtown plaza in Ohio, a critical battleground state.

Introducing Edwards in Cleveland, the first city to get electricity, Kerry welcomed “a different kind of electricity called John Edwards.” The Massachusetts senator called his running mate a man with “passion, conviction and strength.”

“He represents the best of the hope of our country, the best of opportunity,” Kerry said.

Kerry also pulled up at himself as well as his running mate for teasing critiques of the two often are teased about.

“We’ve got better vision, better ideas, real plans. We’ve got a better sense of what’s happening to America — and we’ve got better hair,” Kerry said, laughing.

In turn, Edwards praised Kerry for showing “strength and courage and determination” during the Democratic primary. “And the truth is, it’s the same



Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., and his running mate Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., arrive Wednesday for a photo opportunity at Kerry’s Pittsburgh residence.

strength, courage and leadership that he showed his whole life,” he said.

Kerry and Edwards sought to dispel any notion of ill-will from the primary campaign by embracing and laughing together like old friends. The two — both millionaires — promised that together they would fight for the middle class. And, they criticized President Bush.

Such an embrace had a celebratory feel — all part of the campaign’s plan to introduce the Democratic ticket before the convention in Boston July 26-29 — and it was definitely a family affair.

Earlier, the candidates, their

wives and children appeared on the Kerry family’s suburban Pittsburgh estate for family photographs before heading to Ohio and then to Florida to kick off four days of campaigning that will end Saturday with a rally in Edwards’ home state of North Carolina.

Edwards, a constant grin on his face, said he had assumed when Kerry called him on Tuesday morning that it was another reporter calling. “I was very pleased to have gotten the news,” he said.

“This is a great privilege for me to have the opportunity to serve my country, which I love so

Bush dismisses Edwards as a challenger to Cheney

BY PETE YOST
The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — President Bush on Wednesday curtly dismissed Democratic Sen. John Edwards’ political skills and experience as a rival to his vice president, telling reporters “Dick Cheney can be president.”

Bush, campaigning in Edwards’ home state of North Carolina, said he was unconcerned about the potential of Edwards to help carry states in the South — the backbone of Bush’s political support.

“When they go to the polls to vote for president, they’ll understand the senator from Massachusetts doesn’t share their values,” Bush said. “I’m going to carry the South because the peo-

ple understand that they share — we share values.”

When a reporter noted that Edwards was being described as “charming, engaging, a humble campaigner, a populist and even sexy” and then asked “How does he stack up against Dick Cheney?” the president immediately responded, “Dick Cheney can be president. Next?”

After Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry selected Edwards as his running mate Tuesday, the Bush campaign and the Republican Party immediately began criticizing Edwards’ level of experience. He is serving his first term as a North Carolina senator, his only elective office after a 20-year career as a trial lawyer.

dearly,” Edwards said.

Kerry said the two families spent last night talking about the announcement and having fun trying to know each other better. He joked that the ticket was announcing a new campaign manager.

“Jack Edwards is taking over everything,” Kerry quipped, referring to Edwards’ campaign slogan. “He does a wild cannonball.”

Amid questions about the depth of Edwards’ experience after less than six years in the Senate, the Kerry campaign on Wednesday defended the selection.

“He brings a great deal to the table and actually more than the current president did when he was elected in 2000,” Mary Beth Cahill, the Kerry-Edwards campaign manager, told “Good Morning America” on ABC.

Sept. 11 commission sticks with limited al-Qaida-Iraq connections

BY HOPE YEN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Sept. 11 commission is standing by its finding that al-Qaida had only limited contact with Iraq before the terrorist attacks.

The 10-member, bipartisan panel issued a one-sentence statement Tuesday saying it had access to the same information as Vice President Dick Cheney, who suggested strong ties between ousted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and al-Qaida.

That assertion was one of the justifications the Bush administration gave for going to war with Iraq. In a preliminary report released last month, the Sept. 11 commission cited contacts between Saddam’s regime and Osama bin Laden but said there was no “collaborative relationship.”

In an interview with CNBC, Cheney had said there “probably” was information about Iraq’s links to terrorists that the commission members did not learn during their 14-month investigation. The commission statement Tuesday disputed that.

“After examining available transcripts of the vice president’s

public remarks, the 9/11 commission believes it has access to the same information the vice president has seen regarding contacts between al-Qaida and Iraq prior to the 9/11 attacks,” the commission said.

The commission’s vice chairman, former Democratic Rep. Lee Hamilton of Indiana, said on ABC’s “This Week” that the panel “asked the vice president if he had information we did not have, and he said no.”

“Obviously, if there is some information, we need it,” he said.

But Cheney’s spokesman, Kevin Kellums, denied that the commission asked the vice president for additional information.

Since no information was provided, the panel wished to make clear that after some double-checking it was basing its findings on the same intelligence and material that Cheney had, Democratic commissioner Timothy Roemer said in an interview.

“Our position is firmly unchanged and committed to our previous finding,” said Roemer, a former congressman from Indiana. “We have not discovered collaboration cooperation between al-Qaida and Iraq in general terrorist activities across the world, against the United States.”

Kellums, however, said the vice president was satisfied the panel had all relevant information to make an accurate determination. Cheney’s main concern was about some media reports suggesting that al-Qaida and Iraq had no ties whatsoever, he said.

We are pleased with today’s statement from the 9/11 commission, which puts to rest a non-story,” Kellums said. “As we have said all along, the administration has provided the commission with unprecedented access to sensitive information so they can perform their mission.”

Kellums added that Cheney “did not criticize the commission’s work” and said, “We look forward to reading the commission’s final report.”

The commission, which faces a July 26 deadline to issue its final report, is winding down its 1½ year investigation into what went wrong and why.

Commissioners already have submitted a substantial portion of the report to the White House for review and are meeting this week to hash out recommendations into how to prevent future attacks.

Proposals under consideration include creating a domestic intelligence agency modeled after Britain’s MI5.

Portland archdiocese to file for bankruptcy protection

BY RUKMINI CALLIMACHAI
The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Being molested by a priest left James Devereaux with nobody to confess to. What he could not find at the confessional as a boy, Devereaux hoped he would find in court as a man.

But just as Devereaux and his lawyer were preparing to sue the late Rev. Maurice Grammond, the Portland archdiocese announced Tuesday it was filing for bankruptcy.

The archdiocese took action because of the steep costs from clergy sex abuse lawsuits, halting the trial of a lawsuit against Grammond, accused of sexually abusing more than 50 boys in the 1980s.

Devereaux said he would persevere despite the Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing, an unprecedented step that could open the Roman Catholic archdiocese to new levels of court scrutiny.

“We will continue our fight to finally get the archdiocese to accept the sin of its crimes,” said Devereaux, a 52-year-old rancher who said he was raped repeatedly by Grammond beginning in 1964 in the southern Oregon logging town of Oakridge.

“I had been taught as a child

that God is Almighty,” he said, “and the priest is his representative.”

No other American diocese has filed for bankruptcy, though Boston threatened to do so at the height of the abuse crisis that erupted there two years ago. The Diocese of Tucson, Ariz., has said it will decide whether to seek court protection before an abuse trial there is completed.

Plaintiffs in the two lawsuits involving Grammond have sought a total of more than \$160 million.

The archdiocese and its insurers already have paid more than \$53 million to settle more than 130 claims dating to 1950 by people who said they were abused by priests. Most of those lawsuits have been filed since 1999.

The bankruptcy filing included the archdiocese’s assets, which will be filed later. The filing did not include a list of the archdiocese’s assets, which will be filed later.

Archbishop John G. Vlazny said the archdiocese tried to settle with the plaintiffs, but could not afford their offer.

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Film is a documentary

Concerning Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" (July 5), the correct film industry categorization is "documentary."

Despite the director's message, it is still art. Unfortunately, not everyone is aware of the definitions of film genre.

The political views of filmmakers are something we as soldiers should be proud of, not full of contempt for, regardless of our perspectives. It is through the greatness of art that they would perceive as unconstitutional or as an abuse of our sacred trust. To accuse one another without reviewing the evidence is a transgression of our most basic value: liberty.

I joined the Army to conscientiously provide protection of this value. It is the right and obligation of a citizen to hold the government responsible for its actions. It is a great responsibility that is entrusted to our congressional and senatorial representatives and more so to our president.

I hope that the idea of American liberty born these 228 years ago is not forgotten nor obscured by the most pernicious of human depravities: self-righteous intolerance.

2nd Lt. David de la Vega

Baghdad

Wanted: The facts

My compliments to the Navy lieutenant who wrote that The Associated Press poll on the Iraqis was bogus (July 1).

Some real facts to go with the garbage

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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(that seems to be continuously spewed by the media these days) would really go a long way in re-establishing our belief in the honesty and integrity of the media.

From now on, when you quote a poll such as that AP poll (which would have people believe that more than 50 percent of Americans disapprove of the war effort), you owe it to your readers to state exactly what data that poll was based on and what questions were used to generate the results. It is not enough to simply state the margin of error was plus or minus 4 points. If you are going to state the results as if they are factual and represent the entire country, state this critical information, too. As the writer proved, he was quickly able to conduct a poll showing that 80 percent approved the war effort.

Why didn't you make his poll headline news?

I just conducted a poll and asked 10 people if they thought Stars and Stripes provided unbiased, unopinionated reporting

of events. Seven of 10 responded! No 1 except to see a headline in your paper reading "70 percent of Americans cite Stars and Stripes as lacking honesty and integrity."

When are all the media (not just Stars and Stripes) going to quit trying to portray events the way they want them portrayed, quit putting their spin on events for their own agenda, and simply report the facts. We average folks want the facts, not the spin.

Dan LaChance

Heidelberg, Germany

Comparing prices

A few days ago the post exchange had an insert called "Savings Blast" in the Stars and Stripes. The following day I carried this insert with me to a civilian supermarket to compare prices for the exact items. Here are a couple of my findings:

■ Bounty paper towels, three-pack: PX price, 2.19 euros per pack (about \$2.75)
 ■ Charmin toilet paper, 12 pack, white: PX price, 2 for \$6, German market every day price, 2.95 euros per pack (about \$3.75)

I also checked the prices of the Crest toothpaste in the civilian supermarket and all were equal or better than the PX prices.

The Dugway, Cascade and Tide were about the same as civilian stores. The prices of the Ivory, Olay and Zest soaps are cheaper in the civilian stores.

When I first enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1938, the PX and commissary were real benefits for that little GI, but today their main attraction is that they're on base.

(Retired) Capt. John W. Johnson

Waldmurn-Glashofen, Germany

Exporation bringing us closer to space

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Don't look now, but 2004 is shaping up as one of the most memorable years ever for space exploration.

In February, we had a veritable convention of probes from the United States, Britain and Europe gathering around Mars. The U.S. rovers Spirit and Opportunity, which have been rumbling around Mars since January, are still sending back info, beyond the predicted length of their missions.

Two weeks ago, we saw those private-enterprise craft, the Space Shuttle's Mojave, Calif., shoot a dude into the exosphere, a true first in space annals. There's a lot more that came from.

And last week, the massive Cassini-Huygens space probe began an orbit

around Saturn.

Cassini is a real trash-truck of a thing, the biggest interplanetary craft ever (12,600 pounds, the size and weight of a school bus, it's often said). It's a \$3.3-billion collaboration among the United States and 16 other nations. It's bristling with gadgets to do everything from measuring Saturn's magnetic fields to releasing the Huygens probe to land on Titan, a moon of Saturn's that's thought to have a sphere like Earth's when Earth was young.

We speak casually of matters that actually are unbelievable. To get into orbit, Cassini had to ascend through the rings, then fire its engine for 95 minutes to then descend through the rings again and set into place. It was a teeth-gritting process, commanded at a distance of 900 million miles plus, so unimaginably far that radio signals take 80 minutes to get there from

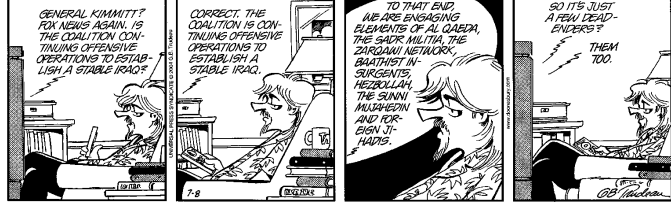
here, and vice versa.

And so far, it's working splendidly. Cassini already has transmitted heart-stopping photos of Saturn. We have seen the moon Phoebe close enough to determine that it is probably a captured asteroid. And, in photos that would win awards if they were paintings, Cassini has sent back images of Saturn's rings, showing "density waves," ripple-patterns in the rings caused by gravitational waves.

And we'll see much more, especially when little Huygens hunkers down on Titan, an encounter scheduled for December. If nothing else, this massive project shows us how sheer vision and brainpower can bring us closer to undreamed-of beauty, especially when we side up to Saturn, loveliest object in a lovely solar system.

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury



OPINION

Campaign ski-jumped Edwards over pack

First things first. That is what John Kerry must have said to himself when he chose John Edwards as his running mate over alternatives with far more experience in government and far better credentials to take over as president on a moment's notice.

David Broder

WASHINGTON

In picking Edwards, the first-term senator from North Carolina, the Democratic presidential candidate relied on the most obvious political criteria. He allied himself with the best campaigner in the 2004 field of candidates and the man with the largest personal following.

The choice had everything to do with Mission One, winning the election, and precious little to do with governing the nation. In that respect, it was a Republican move quick to point out — a vivid contrast to the choice President Bush made four years ago in selecting Dick Cheney for his ticket. In campaign terms, Kerry brought almost nothing. He comes from Wyoming, a safe Republican state with only three electoral votes. He is a mediocre stump speaker.

What Cheney brought was an impressive governmental résumé, as a former White House chief of staff, the No. 2 Republican leader in the House and the secretary of the defense during the first Gulf War. For the young governor of Texas, devoid of Washington connections, the choice of Cheney was an important boost.

For the young governor of Texas, devoid of Washington connections, the choice of Cheney was an important boost.

in governance credentials.

That Cheney has proved to be both influential and controversial comes as no surprise. In Kerry's case, he obviously feels that his own Washington experience — 19 years as Senate service, including a major role in foreign policy — needs no bolstering. So Dick Gephardt, with his years as Democratic leader in the House, and Sen. Bob Graham, with his expertise in intelligence issues, were liabilities Kerry thought he did not need.

Instead, he went for the man who is most likely to add votes to the Democratic column by his personal campaigning. Edwards has shown an uncanny ability to connect with both core Democratic constituencies and independent voters in every campaign he has run. That is how he won his Senate race against a GOP incumbent six years ago.

And it is how he came from far behind to become Kerry's toughest challenger in contests from Iowa through Super Tuesday. Edwards, a skilled trial lawyer — learns as he goes. His stump speech when I first saw him in New Hampshire early in 2003 was acceptable but not overwhelming. By the time he got back to New Hampshire, nine months later, it was a thing of beauty — a populist depiction of "two Americas," the dividing between the privileged and the working people, but devoid of the anger and frustration so often linked to populism.

Edwards knew he had found a theme that resonated, and he delivered the speech six or eight times a day, with variation, winning votes at almost every stop. I came away thinking that if Edwards had had Kerry's organization, he would have been the nominee...

The question in many minds was whether Kerry would be comfortable running with a man whose stump skills were as great as the



ambitions that had carried him so far so fast. (At a Democratic dinner in Milwaukee three nights before the Wisconsin primary), Kerry complained to his aides that Edwards' criticisms of his trade record were unfair — even though they seemed mild to outsiders.

But the bad blood was dissolved by political calculations that Edwards could help the ticket, not just by forcing Bush to work for North Carolina, but — more importantly — in Appalachian parts of Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania and the small towns of the Midwest.

The partnership has a sounder basis than many outsiders realize. In private conversations with reporters early in

their competition for the presidential nomination, Edwards was always complimentary of Kerry...

At the time, Kerry was more skeptical of Edwards' credentials, saying he had not been overly impressed by his Senate work. But in one such conversation, Teresa Heinz Kerry broke in to say of Edwards' wife, Elizabeth, "She's terrific." To which her husband agreed.

This ticket was forged back in January, when Kerry and Edwards finished one-two in the Iowa caucuses. The Democrats could have done a lot worse.

David Broder is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

Modern battles expose F-22 Raptor's limitations

In a joint exercise in February, U.S. air force pilots flying over current top-of-the-line fighter, the F-15C, got their lunch eaten by Indian air force pilots flying new, and not-so-new, Russian jets. The Air Force won't disclose exactly how the mock engagement came out.

Jack Kelly

Gen. Hal Hornburg, head of Air Combat Command, said after the exercise, "We may not be as far ahead of the rest of the world as we once thought we were."

Part of the reason for the strong Indian performance could be superior training, the Air Force acknowledged. But the main reason, they said, is that the F-15C, first fielded in 1979, is showing its age.

"We've taken the F-15 about as far as we can, and now it is time to move on to the next generation," said Col. Mike Snodgrass, commander of the USAF fighters that took part in exercise Cobra India.

The next generation is the F-22 Raptor, which will complete testing this year. The Air Force has a "minimum requirement" for 301 F-22s, at an estimated cost of \$7.2 billion. The Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps plan to spend \$200 billion on the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, which won't be fielded before 2007.

Its critics acknowledge that the F-22 is far and away the finest aircraft of its type ever built. But one thing that happened in Afghanistan — and one thing that didn't — have some military experts doubting the Air Force needs the F-22 and the F-35 in the quantities it is seeking.

What happened is that, thanks to the phenomenal accuracy of satellite-guided

bombs, the venerable B-52 bomber could provide close air support to ground troops from high in the sky. Bombers are now superior to fighters in providing close air support, because they can carry a larger amount and a greater variety of ordnance, and can stay on station longer.

What didn't happen was Air Force fighters playing a major role in the Afghan war. There were no air bases close enough from which they could operate.

The difficulty in obtaining foreign basing rights and an aging tanker fleet mean there are many possible contingencies in which Air Force fighters could not make a timely response, said retired Air Force Col. John Warden, who planned the air campaign in the first Gulf War.

In addition, Warden said, overseas air bases have to be protected from terrorist attacks, and they are lucrative targets for sur-

face-to-surface missiles.

"It's not clear that there are countries out there salivating to take on the U.S. Air Force in air-to-air combat," said retired Army Col. Andrew Krepinovich, who heads the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments in Washington. "If we were to face a more conventional enemy, what would make sense for them is to invest in missile forces. That's what you see countries like North Korea and Iran doing."

The F-22 was born crippled, thanks to the time it takes to get new weapons from the drawing board to the field, Warden said. "I got a briefing on the F-22 prototype when I was at Bitburg [Air Base, then West Germany] in 1986," Warden said. I told the contractors that it sounded like a swell airplane, but they ... should base it in England."

"They said they couldn't, because one of

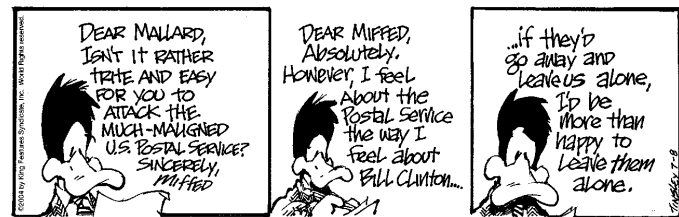
the specifications for the F-22 was that it fit into a NATO-generation shelter. And if it were small enough to fit into a NATO shelter, it wouldn't have enough range to strike targets in Eastern Europe if it were based in England."

The Air Force should restrict the F-22 buy to about 100, cancel its version of the F-35, and challenge the aerospace industry to develop, in five years or so, a hypersonic bomber that could strike targets anywhere in the world from bases in the States. "Why go out and buy an airplane that is significantly behind the technology that's available?" Warden asked. "Nobody has challenged the aerospace industry for a long time."

Jack Kelly is the national affairs writer for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and the Toledo (Ohio) Blade. A former Marine and Green Beret, he was a deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force in the Reagan administration. His column appears weekly in Stars and Stripes.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Crabby on imports

LA NEW ORLEANS — The Louisiana crab industry is working on rallying support among Southern states to get the federal government to slap duties on imports from Venezuela and other nations.

The effort, in its early stages, is the latest move by a Louisiana seafood industry to get relief from imports.

The crawfish industry has already won an antidumping case against Chinese crawfish tail meat, and shrimpers are awaiting a ruling on whether duties should be imposed on imports from six Asian and South American countries.

Crabbers, buoyed by what other fishermen and processors have done, want to file an antidumping petition with the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Treasure in old stove

RI CENTRAL FALLS — A Central Falls landowner is sure glad he looked in an old stove before he threw it out. Inside were vintage coins and nearly \$4,000 worth of gold and silver bars.

Vincent Bilotti came across the stove when he was cleaning the Broad Street apartment of a long-time tenant who had died recently of cancer. He pried open the coal-burning chamber and found several wrapped parcels and canisters.

The Times of Pawtucket reported.

The cans had plastic bags with ancient pennies — wartime zinc, Indian and wheat. The brown paper packages had 133 one-ounce gold and silver bars. There were also five-dollar bills minted in 1851 and solid-silver dollars from the 1880s.

Bilotti said he'll make sure the valuables get to either Ben Mizer's wife or a relative.

"It's possible that they had forgotten about it years ago," he said.

Lineup change wanted

MA BOSTON — Norfolk District Attorney William R. Keating, troubled by a series of wrongful convictions in Massachusetts, is pushing for changes in the way investigators conduct police lineups.

Keating wants to make sure officers conducting lineups don't know which person in the lineup is the suspect.

That way, police won't be able to use their own reactions, either deliberately or accidentally, to influence a witness into choosing the suspect.

Police also would be asked to show witnesses photographs of potential suspects one at a time instead of in groups. The new method has been approved by the U.S. Justice Department and has been shown to be more accurate.

Keating is expected to ask representatives of 27 police departments and six State Police barracks at a July 15 training session to adopt the new procedures.

Sign limits complaint

MI FERNDALE — The American Civil Liberties Union told municipalities in southeastern Michigan that ordinances limiting the display of campaign signs on lawns represent a freedom of expression. The organization received a complaint from a Fern-



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

dale resident ticketed for having more than one political sign in his yard last year. Local officials said the sign ordinances are needed to keep their communities looking clean.

Allegations against DA

CA SACRAMENTO — A grand jury has recommended that a district attorney be publicly rebuked for making threatening remarks about reporters and attempting to intimidate employees who witnessed the incidents.

The Stanislaus County civil grand jury, an investigative panel that cannot hand up indictments, said District Attorney James Brazzelton committed nine acts of willful misconduct.

During a Modesto Bee investigation into his credit card expenditures, Brazzelton approached an employee, drew a gun from his holster and said, "This is what I would like to give that reporter," the grand jury report said.

Brazzelton, 62, who has been in the spotlight since his office became involved in the Laci Peterson murder case, denied making the remark and another accusation involving handgun gestures, according to the report.

The grand jury called on the county Board of Supervisors to publicly rebuke Brazzelton.

Everything's big in Texas

TX WACO — In a state as big as Texas, is there room for two Texas Rangers museums? Former members of the elite law

enforcement agency think so.

While the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum in Waco is seeking to expand, the Former Texas Rangers Foundation has bought 15 acres and raised more than \$1 million for the Texas Rangers History and Education Center in Kerrville, about 160 miles away in southwestern Hill Country.

There is already a small museum for Texas Rangers in San Antonio, but former Rangers believe the Lone Star State is big enough for two major museums honoring the branch of state law enforcement that dates to 1823.

The modern Texas Rangers are an investigative division of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Professor sues for firing

GA AMERICUS — A former Georgia Southwestern State University professor is suing the school. Mohammed Saleh said he was wrongfully terminated because he is Muslim. The computer technology professor says he was also forced to deal with derogatory comments about Iranians and Muslims while working at the university. A court date isn't expected for about a year.

Welcoming in Hmong

WI WAUSAU — The state made \$1 million available for job training to counties expecting to take in some 3,600 of the more than 15,000 Hmong leaving a temple compound in Thailand for the United States. Wisconsin's welfare-to-work program will provide the training. Gov. Jim Doyle also created a task force to advise him on their resettlement.

No stalking charges

CO BROOMFIELD — A reporter who published an account of being raped as a child and said he once considered killing his alleged attacker will not be charged with stalking the man, prosecutors said.

David Holthoof, 33, whose account was published in the Denver alternative weekly Westword, was arrested on suspicion of stalking on May 29, allegedly because he had asked a friend to watch the alleged rapist's home.

Prosecutor Steve Bernard said the alleged attacker did not want to press charges.

In the May 13 Westword story, Holthoof described being raped at knifepoint at age 7 in 1978 by the teenage son of a family acquaintance. Holthoof wrote that he bought a gun and planned to kill the man but changed his mind after his parents found out about the assault.

Signatures submitted

AR LITTLE ROCK — Supporters of a proposed amendment to the Arkansas constitution that would ban gay marriages and civil unions submitted signed petitions to get the measure before voters in November. The Arkansas Marriage Amendment Committee said it collected 200,693 signatures. Supporters need at least 80,570 signatures of registered voters to get the measure on the Nov. 2 ballot.



Rolling down the river The Anson Northrup paddleboat goes through Lock and Dam No. 2 near Hastings, Minn., during the Grand Excursion.



Time for a beauty routine From left, A.J. Holt, 13, of Creola, Ala., Tiffany Harris, 13, of Chicago, and Brandon Holt, 9, of Creola, Ala., groom Beauty at Sandy Ridge Farm in Citronelle, Ala. The farm, which is owned by Harrison and Waynette Black, hosts a camp every summer in which kids can learn about caring for and riding horses.



Dull day at the zoo

A lioness yawns while sitting in the Denver Zoo's new predator exhibit in Denver.



A splashy getaway A suspect, top, tries to elude police in the Tar River in Rocky Mount, N.C., after leading police on a chase. The vehicle the suspect was driving was reported stolen in Virginia Beach, Va., police said. The suspect was taken into custody with charges pending.



Dreams of flight Lance Sprunger of Goshen, Ind., plays with his new model plane at the Freedom Fest in Goshen, Ind. The annual show draws thousands to the airfield for demonstrations by a variety of aircraft.



Down the chute Matt Berst, 34, of Coralville, Iowa, takes a ride down the bright-orange space bowl water slide during the opening of the new Coralville Community Aquatic Center in Coralville.



Pounding the pavement Children participating in the annual Whiskey Row Boot Race charge down Montezuma Street in Prescott, Ariz. The race, now in its 22nd year, is one of many events scheduled for the annual Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo.

Work to prevent outages

NJ L'AVALLETT — Jersey Central Power & Light completed \$18 million in repairs to prevent recurrence of a power line failure. The outage last July 4th week-end left more than 34,000 homes and businesses along the shore without electricity.

The utility has since replaced old lines, added new ones and spent nearly \$2 million to reimburse businesses and homeowners for losses from the 63-hour black-out.

Great place to recreate

WY JACKSON — Teton County was ranked the top recreation area in the United States in a study by Colorado College on the state of the Rocky Mountains. The study noted that Jackson in Teton County is positioned as a gateway to the Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks. Hinsdale County, Colo., northeast of Durango, ranked second.

Park County was the only other Wyoming county in the top 10.

No clues in fish theft

AK ANCHORAGE — Something fishy happened to Ray Bolanos' luggage.

Somewhere between Anchorage and Seattle, about 40 meticulously wrapped and packed one-pound pieces of fresh-caught halibut vanished from his checked bags.

"I really just feel violated," Bolanos said from his home in Kenmore, Wash.

Bolanos said his bags appeared on the luggage carousel at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport almost immediately after he arrived June 24. But one of the two coolers of fish was missing the rope he'd tied around it in Anchorage.

Bolanos complained to Continental Airlines and both airports, but so far there have been no clues to what happened to the fish he caught on Kachemak Bay.

Easier to surf Honolulu

HI HONOLULU — Whether you're in Honolulu, N.C., Honolulu, Kan., or Honolulu, Alaska, starting this week, the Web address honolulu.gov will take you straight to the islands.

City officials said the federal General Services Administration, which oversees the use of all "gov" Internet addresses, gave the green light last month for the City and County of Honolulu to use the streamlined Web address.

It would replace the standard, more cumbersome co.honolulu.hi.us construction used by most municipalities.

Officials first sought to use the .gov address three years ago, but were unable to secure the name due to competing claims by about 50 other municipalities that share the same name as Hawaii's capital, said U.S. Rep. Ed Case, D-Hawaii.

Transplants halted

NY VALHALLA — The cost-cutting at Westchester Medical Center has reached its suspension of heart transplants and pancreas transplants.

The head of the consulting team now running the financially beleaguered hospital said that not

enough transplants were being done to justify the cost of the programs.

"We have not seen the kind of volume that we would have liked, and, financially that is an issue for us now," said consultant Mary Brown.

The hospital has done two heart transplants this year and 20 since the program started in 2001. There have been no pancreas transplants since 2002.

The 17 patients on the waiting list for a heart will be transferred to other centers, the hospital said.

Young and political

WI RICE LAKE — He hasn't reached voting age yet, but Jason Rae has earned a place at the red-hot center of the Democratic Party.

The 17-year-old has won the election to one of Wisconsin's four spots to the Democratic National Committee and will go to Boston's convention next month.

Rae will be a senior in high school next year and has an impressive résumé: first in his class, student council president, editor of the yearbook, active in his church.

He's also earned his political chops. Rae serves on the re-election steering committee of Sen. Russ Feingold, has worked on the gubernatorial campaign of Tom Barrett and is a vice chairman of the Barron County Democratic Party.

Rae started preparing himself since way back. At 5, he urged his parents to vote for Bill Clinton in 1992.

"He's been watching C-SPAN for I don't know how long," said his father.

DNA database OK'd

NY ALBANY — A federal judge ruled that the law establishing New York state's database of DNA samples from convicted offenders is constitutional. U.S. District Judge Kevin Thomas Duffy found that the program, which seeks to match crime-scene DNA samples with those of known criminal offenders, doesn't violate protections against warrantless or suspicionless searches under the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Landfill allowed over limit

WV HEDGESVILLE — Concerned about health risks from uncollected garbage, state officials allowed LCS North Mountain landfill to temporarily exceed its monthly 9,999-ton limit. State law requires landfills to close when they reach their tonnage limit. State and local officials plan to meet with the landfill's owner in July to discuss solutions.

Accident kills girl, 10

NY ALBANY A 10-year-old girl died after accidentally falling from a tree house with a strap around her neck.

Authorities said Amanda Moon was playing with her cousins in her tree house in East Chatham when she placed a strap around her neck and fell about six feet.

Amanda's father said she suffered brain damage and died at an Albany hospital.

East Chatham is 22 miles southeast of Albany.

Stories and photos from wire services

Stripes Travel



Roses & ruins

German region delights with history and beauty

BY MICHAEL ABRAMS

Stars and Stripes

The Wetterau is a region of fertile German hills and vales that stretches roughly from Butzbach in the northwest to Biedingen in the southeast.

Castles, monasteries and villages with half-timbered houses dot the countryside. It is known for apple orchards and apple wine. It is a place for invigorating bike rides or lazy day trips by car.

On a recent jaunt, we visited the northwest corner of the Wetterau, stopping at a village famous for its roses, an imposing castle and a former monastery better known today for its culinary delights than its religious heritage.

On a breezy day, you can smell Steinfurth before you can see it. Actually you smell what the town, a suburb of Bad Nauheim, is famous for: roses.

Steinfurth is the rose-growing capital of Germany. Thirty nurseries grow

about 4 million roses annually. And while this is a lot, 30 years ago 210 nurseries produced up to 14 million roses a year.

Lack of demand for roses and hot competition pared down the number of producers throughout the years.

Rosebushes line the road as you enter Steinfurth. From then, until you leave the town, the roses will be your constant companions. Roses grow in gardens and decorate buildings. There is a rose museum — the Rosenmuseum — and on even years, Steinfurth hosts the Rosenfest, with a rose queen and a parade, on the third weekend of July.

The story of roses and Steinfurth begins in 1866 when a local lad, Heinrich Schultheis, returned from a rose-grower's apprenticeship in England and founded the first German rose nursery. In 1880 he produced the first catalog for buyers, and two years later, a Schultheis Brothers rose catalog appeared in the United States. A copy is



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Above: An aisle of the monastery church, now in ruins, at Kloster Arnburg in Germany's Wetterau region. **Above left:** A rose from a garden in Steinfurth, Germany.

on display at the Rosenmuseum.

By the turn of the century there were 50 rose farmers in Steinfurth. The first Rosenfest took place in 1949 and the first queen was crowned the next year.

The sheer volume of roses can be overwhelming. Roses bloom in red, white, yellow, pink and orange. There are rose bushes, climbing roses and potted roses. Some with tiny blooms, some with giant ones. Some inexpensive, some very expensive. One thing is for sure: It's a rose lover's dream town.

The Rosenmuseum is only interesting if you speak German, since all the exhibits are in German. On display are things with roses on them, such as cups, plates, wallpaper, books, etc. There is one room dedicated to the history of rose growing in Steinfurth and another on how roses are grown. You can buy rose souvenirs at the museum, and it also has a café.

The road from Steinfurth to Münzenberg leads through Rockenberg, with its nunnery, now a prison for

juvenile delinquents.

Münzenberg castle, standing high on a hill above the village, can be seen from miles away. It is nicknamed the "Inkwells of the Wetterau," and it is easy to see why. Its two tall, round towers poke into the sky like giant inkwells.

The castle dates to the middle of the 12th century and was built by Kuno I von Hagen-Arnburg, who named himself Kuno I von Münzenberg in 1156. It has an outer wall surrounding the bailey — the outer wall or court — with an inner wall protecting the courtyard and living buildings. You have to pass through three gates to enter the castle proper. This is the oldest part of the castle, with the outer walls built later to strengthen the defenses. The two "inkwells," the west keep and east keep, give a view of the surrounding land.

In 1255, Kuno's last heir, Ulrich II, died and the castle fell to Ulrich's son-in-law, Philipp I von Falkenberg.

SEE WETTERAU ON PAGE 22

Berlin reflects

German capital looks to the future with an eye on the past

BY CHRIS WELSCH

Minneapolis-St. Paul Star Tribune

On a cold day, only a handful of Humboldt University students trundled between buildings on Bebelplatz, a tidy 18th-century square in central Berlin.

"In a city full of monuments, this is my favorite one," said Michele Brewer, our guide for the day. "You might wonder what I'm referring to."

I did; there were no monuments in sight.

She led us to the center of the plaza, where a square glass window lay flush with the chalk-colored stones, revealing a large, illuminated room underneath our feet. The room was full of bookshelves, which were empty.

"There's room on those shelves for 20,000 books, which is how many the Nazis burned in a big pile here," she said.

"My favorite part, though, is more subtle. If you notice, you'll see that your own image is reflected in the glass. You look in and you also see yourself. The artist wanted you to see that there is no history without you in it."

Every day I was in Berlin, I was able to see evidence of what Brewer said. The city's monuments, museums and landmarks either celebrate the role of individuals in society or rue the times when they did not speak out.

As Berlin continues to transform into reunited Germany's capital, businesses, embassies, museums and government agencies are building office towers and creating a new urban landscape. Always, it seems, Berlin keeps one eye on the past as it moves into the future.

When Brewer was introducing us to Berlin, she started by saying, "The history of the 20th century is here."

World War I started when a unified Germany, with Berlin as its capital, began flexing its muscles. Berlin was the seat of the government that started World War II and the setting for the last bloody battles that ended it in Europe. Isolated behind the Berlin Wall, surrounded by East Germany, the city became the hottest front in the Cold War.

Now the city, population 3.5 million, is reinventing itself as the center of Europe's economy and culture.

There's no better place to see that than Potsdamer Platz, which during the Cold War was a blighted area divided by the wall and the Death Strip.

I had read about how Germany was devoting vast resources to rebuilding its capital and how Potsdamer Platz was planned as the centerpiece.

I was disappointed by the



PETER JAEGER/Stars and Stripes

A favorite tourist spot in Berlin is the Reichstag (Parliament) cupola with its view over the heart of the city. The giant mirror-covered funnel brings daylight into the Bundestag assembly and gives people on the walkways a view of the legislators — and vice versa.

reality of it: A forest of glass-sheathed towers, surrounded by cranes erecting more of the same. Potsdamer Platz is massive but soulless. The buildings are monuments to the corporations that built them, not a place to serve people, who are reduced to antlike drones by their neolithic scale. There is no space on the street for sidewalk cafes, flower stalls or small shops.

There was one small note of grace to the whole project. The city saved a chunk of the Berlin Wall — a concrete slab 12 feet high and about 4 feet wide. It stands at a crosswalk, battered and homely.

Even though it was painfully cold and windy, passersby lingered by it, touched it, read the graffiti and had their pictures taken with it. I stood there, too, thinking of the people who died trying to go over it.

Brewer, 34, is a Canadian who has lived in Berlin for nearly three years. She's finishing her Ph.D. in philosophy at Potsdam University. She earns money on the side as a guide for Berlin Walks, which leads history and cultural tours through the city. Before we started the walk, she carefully made a point.

She said that the dangers that destroyed German democracy in 1933 weren't unique to that time

or place, and that human capacity for racism, violence and apathy is universal.

"If we don't look at history with an eye toward ourselves, then it's really just an exercise in voyeurism," she said.

With that mindset, we spent the day looking at Berlin's Nazi past. Even though 90 percent of the city was leveled by air raids and artillery shells, quite a few landmarks survived.

We walked by the massive and ominous Luftwaffe headquarters, which takes up three city blocks. It now serves as Germany's finance ministry. The Luftwaffe headquarters epitomizes the National Socialist approach to



Stars and Stripes

architecture: monumental in size, with regimented rows of windows and no decoration to speak of.

"In fascism, ornamentation is a crime," Brewer said. "That kind of creativity represents the individual."

We saw Checkpoint Charlie, the old gate between East and West; the vacant lot where the Reich Chancellery was; and, nearby, the spot where Hitler and his girlfriend, Eva Braun, were buried in shallow graves after committing suicide.

My favorite monument, in a city full of them, was the Reichstag, the seat of the German government. Ironically, Hitler never had time for the Reichstag — it was left empty after the arson in 1933 that scuttled the parliament and led to his rule. It was one of the only major buildings in Berlin not associated with Nazi rule.

When Berlin once again became the capital of Germany, the Reichstag was chosen to be the seat of government.

British architect Sir Norman Foster won the competition to redesign the building. He made it a point to leave some of the bullet holes and graffiti on its walls, as reminders of the war.

But the most ingenious part of his renovation is the 130-foot-high glass dome that crowns the structure. Underneath it, an upside-down cone of mirrors glazes down from the glass floor. An inviting spiral walkway circles the interior of the dome, offering a bird's-eye view of the city.

Access is free and open to the public. Standing at the top of the dome, it is possible to see Berlin sprawling in all directions.

The mirrors on the cone in the center of the dome are angled so that legislators, sitting at their desks, can look up and see the people on the walkways. And the people can look through the glass floor to see the legislators.

It's a marvelous visual metaphor. If German politicians ever forget who they're working for, all they have to do is look up.

And if the German people want a reminder that the government is theirs, and their responsibility is theirs, all they have to do is look down.

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In Kloster Arnsburg sits a World War II cemetery with 447 graves of German soldiers, prisoners of war and forced laborers, including the remains of 87 men and women murdered by the SS shortly before the Americans arrived on March 26, 1945.

If you go

Getting there

Reaching this part of the Wetterau is easy.

■ **From the south**, exit Autobahn 5 at the Bad Nauheim exit, then follow the signs to Steinfurth, Münzenberg and Kloster Arnsburg on the back roads.

■ **From Giessen**, exit Autobahn 45 at the Münzenberg exit, and then take Highway 488 toward Lich. Watch for the turn for Kloster Arnsburg a couple of miles before Lich. Or follow the signs to Münzenberg and start the day at the castle.

■ **From Hanau**, take Autobahn 45 toward Gießen/Dortmund, exit at Münzenberg, and do the same as above.

When to go

Now is a good time because the roses are in bloom, but spring, summer and fall are fine. In winter, the castle and monastery are closed and the fields are bare.

Hours and costs

■ **The Rosemuseum** in Steinfurth is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday from May to October and 2 to 5 p.m. from November to April; Sunday hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is 3 euros for adults and 2 for children.

■ **The Steinfurth Rosenfest** takes place July 16-19.

There is a rose show where new and unique hybrids are on display in the Rosensaal (Rose Hall). It opens July 16 at 4:40 p.m., and at 8 a.m. the following three days. The Rosenkorsparade is Sunday at 2 p.m. The rest is your traditional German feast with drinks, foods and rides.

■ **Münzenberg castle** opens daily at 10 a.m. from February to November and closes between 4 and 7 p.m., depending on the time of year. Admission is 1.80 euros for adults and 1.30 euros for children 14 and younger.

■ **Kloster Arnsburg** is open daily during the daylight hours, but might be closed during the winter due to snow and ice. Admission is 1 euro, which you pay at the turnstile at the entrance, so be sure to have coins with you.

■ **The Alte Klostermühle** restaurant is open 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily for lunch, from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. for coffee and cake, and from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. for dinner.

Information

These Web sites are in German only:

■ Steinfurth: www.steinfurth-online.de and www.bad-nauheim.de/stadt/html/steinfurth.html

■ Münzenberg castle: www.muenzenberg.de/burg/index.htm

■ Kloster Arnsburg: www.kloster-arnsburg.de

■ Alte Klostermühle restaurant: www.alte-klostermuehle.de

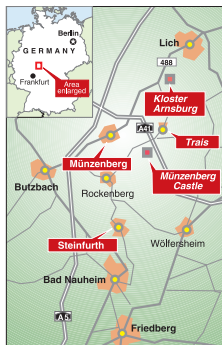
— MICHAEL ABRAMS



A statue of Bernhard of Clairvaux greets visitors above the gate to Kloster Arnsburg, a former Cistercian monastery.



Roses frame the gateway of a half-timbered house in Steinfurth, the



PETER JAEGER/Stars and Stripes

WETTERAU FROM PAGE 19

The Falkensteins built the northern residential building, known as the Falkensteinbau, at the end of the 13th century. It is bigger but less decorative than the Romanesque structure.

In 1418, the last Falkenstein died and in 1628 the castle was shot to ruins during the Thirty Years War.

Today, you can stroll along the castle walls, and climb the 145 steps to the top of the east keep for a great view of the Wetterau, the Taunus Mountains and the castle and village below. At least once a year, usually in June, a

medieval festival takes place here, and in the summer concerts are held.

The restaurant Zur Burg (a beer garden), at the end of a road leading up to the castle, is popular with tourists and locals alike. The town of Münzenberg has an interesting half-timbered town hall on the market place.

Another example of half-timbered architecture can be found in the suburb of Trais-Münzenberg, on the road to Kloster Arnsburg. On Römerstrasse, some of the best examples of half-timbered farmhouses with high wood gates in the Wetterau



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

rose capital of Germany.

The area around Kloster Arnburg has been settled for a long time. Traces of the Bronze Age Urnfield Culture have been found here, including a large pot on display at the monastery.

The Romans built a fort nearby in the first century, and later, in the ninth and 11th centuries, two medieval castles were built here. Traces of the latter can still be seen.

In 1174, 12 Cistercian monks founded the Arnburg monastery. Throughout the centuries as many as 200 monks lived there, and as few as 10. The monastery's holdings in land also expanded and contracted over the

years.

The Peasants' War, the Reformation and the Thirty Years War also brought the monks hard times. But in the 18th century, Kloster Arnburg had a second heyday when many structures were added, including the Baroque gate building at the entrance to the monastery grounds. In 1803, it was secularized, and the monastery and its belongings were given to the counts of Solms-Laubach.

After passing through the gate, you are in the large expanse of the monastery grounds. Directly ahead is the old monastery with the ruins of its church. Pass



A statue of a knight and a clergyman stands in the ruins of the monastery church at Kloster Arnburg.



The inner courtyard of Münzenberg castle with the Romanesque residential building at left, the western keep at center and the Falkenstein building at right. The castle dates to the 12th century, and visitors can see remnants of buildings that were built as "recently" as the 15th century.



This rather strange statue of a horse stands behind the ruins of the monastery church at Kloster Arnburg. The monastery's rebuilt dormitory is regularly used for art exhibits.

through its gate and you enter the cloister, now a World War II cemetery with 447 graves of German soldiers, prisoners of war and forced laborers, including the remains of 87 men and women murdered by the SS shortly before the Americans arrived on March 26, 1945.

There is not much left of the Romanesque monastery church. Built in the 12th and 13th centuries, it fell into ruin after the secularization. With a length of 280 feet, it must have been quiet

impressive once.

On the monastery grounds are numerous other buildings. One of them, the old mill house, is now a hotel and restaurant. The Alte Klostermühle is known far and wide for its excellent cuisine, with specialties from the region. It is not cheap, with entrees between 15 and 26 euros, but if you can afford it, it is the perfect place to cap off a day in the Wetterau.

E-mail Michael Abrams at abramsmj@mail.estripes.osd.mil.

Best bets for the week

ENGLAND: The Duxford Aviation Museum ensures visitors that traffic problems have been worked out for this year's Living Legends Air Show, which flies this weekend. More than 60 aircraft are scheduled to take to the skies, including Spitfires, Mustangs and the "Cats" (Bearcat, Tigercat, Wildcat and Hellcat) and other international participants. Tickets cost 25 pounds (about \$45) for adults, 8 pounds for children; children 5 and younger get in free. Gates open at 8 a.m.; the flying starts at 2 p.m. For information, call (+44) (0) 1223/499 301. The Web site is www.iwm.org.uk.

WALES: If you mountain bikers want a real challenge, head to Llanwrtyd Wells on Saturday for the annual World Mountain Bike Bog Snorkeling Championships. Imagine weighing yourself and your specially modified bike down with weights, strapping on a snorkel and mask, and riding through a trench about 6 feet deep and 45 yards long filled with muddy bog water. Your goal is to reach a pole, circle it and return. Wet suits are recommended.

For details, go to www.llanwrtydwells.govs.org. To read about the experience, go to www.myra-simon.com/bikebog-snrork.html.

— JAYNE TRAENDLY

BY JAYNE TRAENDLY
Special to Stars and Stripes
Listings are subject to change.
Confirm details with tourist offices.

AUSTRIA

www.austria.info
VIENNA: Jazz fest. to **July 11**.
REUTTE (Tyrol): Medieval festival, **July 23-25**.

BELGIUM

E-mail: info@visitbelgium.com
ANTWERP: Summer cultural festival, to **Aug. 29**.
ANTWERP/LILLE: Commemorative year P.P. Reubens, **2004**.
BLANKENBERGHE: Sand sculpture festival, to **Aug. 29**.
ZEEBRUGGE: Sand sculpture festival, **July 16-Sept. 5**.
GHENT: Ghent festival, **July 17-26**.
www.gentsefeesten.be

DENMARK

E-mail: dt@dt.dk
www.visitdenmark.com
JELLS: The Vikings Chronicles, to **July 18 (except for July 11)**.
Open-air Viking plays.
KLAMPENBORG: Bakken park open, to **Aug. 30**.
COPENHAGEN: Tivoli gardens open, to **Sept. 19**.
SØNDERBORG: Sand sculpture festival, to **Sept. 19**.
BILLUND: Legoland open, to **Oct. 24**.
www.lego.com
ÅHRUS: International jazz festival, **July 10-18**.
www.rosa.org/ajtf

Calendar

ENGLAND

www.visitbritain.com
YORK: Early music festival, to **July 10**.
PETERBOROUGH: City festival, to **July 11**.
LONDON: City festival, to **July 13**.
DUXFORD: Living Legends air show, **July 10-11**. www.iwm.org.uk
TENEALMURRY: Medieval festival, **July 10-11**.
LIVERPOOL: Merseyside international street fest, **July 10-Aug. 1**.
WHITBY: Blessing of the boats, **July 11**.
RAF FAIRFORD: Roy International Air Tattoo, **July 17-18**.
RAMSEY: Inter-Celtic festival, **July 18-24**.

FRANCE

www.france-tourism.com
NORMANDY: D-Day celebrations, to **September**.
METZ: Flea market, **July 17**.
LIVERPOOL: Grand Vintage vehicle parade, **through July 11**.
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY: Tour de France, to **July 25**.
MULHACH-SUR-BRUCHE (Alsace): Cheesecake fest, **July 10**.
OBERSOULTZBACH (Alsace): Horse fair, **July 10-11**.
PRAEFENHEIM (Alsace): Wine festival, **July 10-11**.
ROMBACH-LE-FRANC (Alsace): Festival in the Silvarey, **July 10-11, 13**.

BARR (Alsace): Wine fair, **July 13-14, 16-18**.
SAALES (Alsace): Paté fair, **July 14**.
ALL OVER: Bastille Day, **July 14**.
RIEULVILLE (Alsace): Wine fair, **July 16-18**.
OBERNAI (Alsace): Folk festival, **July 17**.
ROUFFACH (Alsace): Witch festival, **July 17**.
RODERN (Alsace): Pinot Noir (rose) wine festival, **July 17-18**.
ROSHEIM (Alsace): Snail festival, **July 17-18**.
DAMBACH (Alsace): Blueberry festival, **July 18**.
HAGUENAU (Alsace): Forest festival, **July 18**.

GERMANY

www.germany-tourism.de
NEUNBURG VOM WALD: Hussite Wars, **through Aug. 8**.
HAMELN: Pied Piper play, to **Sept. 12**.
Sundays, town center.
TRIER: Garden show, to **Oct. 24**.
WORMS: Jazz fest, **July 9-11**.
HEIDELBERG: Castle illumination, **July 10, 10:15 p.m.**
MAINZ: Beer fair, **July 16-18**.
KIEBISBURG: Medieval tournament festival, **July 17-18, 23-25**.

GREECE

www.gnto.gr
ATHENS: Olympics, **Aug. 13-29**.
www.athens2004.com

ITALY

www.italiantourism.com
VESSALICO: Garlic festival, **July 2**.
VENICE: Murano regatta, **July 4**.
SEDLLO (Cristiano): The Ardia, **July 6-7**.
HORSE RACE.
PELAGO: Street musicians' festival, **July 8-11**.
PALERMO: Festival of St. Rosalia, **July 9-15**.
NAPLES: Festival of the Madonna del Carmine, **July 15-16**.
PERUGIA: Umbrian jazz, **July 9-18**.
VENICE: Festa de Redentore, **July 18**.
Boat procession.

THE NETHERLANDS

www.holland.com/uk
ALKMAAR: Cheese and crafts market, **through Sept. 3**.
GOUDA: Gouda Montmartre, **through Sept. 29**.
Antiquities market, Wed. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
EDAM: Cheese market, **Wednesdays through August**.
DEN HAGUE: North Sea jazz festival, **July 9-11**.

SCOTLAND

www.visitscotland.com
HIGHLAND GAMES: STIRLING, **July 11**; LOCH LOMAND, **July 17**; STONEHAVEN, **July 18**.
ISLE OF SKYE: Festival of Hebridean music, **July 13-23**.

SPAIN

www.tourspain.co.uk
PAMPLONA: Running of the bulls, **through July 14**.
CORDOBA: International guitar festival, **through July 17**.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

BE SAFE, MAKE IT HOME

Summertime fun has hidden risks, which is why the Army in Europe implemented its summer safety campaign. The campaign promotes key areas of vehicle accident prevention, heat injury prevention, and various aspects of recreation. Automobile safety tops the list, according to USAREUR Safety Manager Dave Scott, citing the deaths of six of our personnel in crashes so far this year - three times more than the same period last year. Scott said Army in Europe members need to make it personal, and consciously anticipate and address driving dangers like autobahn construction sites, where traffic goes, as he put it, from "the speed of light speed to a crawl, and always just around a bend in the road." Driving on secondary roads has been particularly hazardous, Scott says that drivers shouldn't underestimate the time it takes to pass in relation to how far you can see so that you don't misjudge the speed of oncoming traffic. "Soldiers, civilians, and family members need to be prepared and drive defensively. Relax, be patient and enjoy the scenery," Scott said. Good safety tools are available as part of the campaign on the USAREUR home page at <http://www.hqsusaureur.army.mil>. You will find tips on trip planning, automated risk assessments and vehicle inspections. Trip planning is especially relevant during the summer travel season. Mr. Mike Willoughby, IMA Europe Safety Manager, emphasizes the need to plan enough time for the return trip. "Don't wait until the last minute to return and then feel the need to speed or drive through the night." In addition to plenty of time, Willoughby suggests some other important planning considerations: Plan travel routes that avoid traffic jams, construction and potentially dangerous areas. Again, check out the USAREUR home page for more safety sense! Know what kind of documents you need to get to your final destination. Be prepared for mechanical and medical emergencies. Make sure you have medical coverage while on vacation. Know how to contact emergency services for your vacation location and an route to and from the vacation location. After you've done your planning, it's time to consider what to pack. In addition to clothes and the latest bestseller, Willoughby suggests the following packing tips to help make your vacation a safer and more pleasant experience: An emergency kit appropriate for your mode of travel to give you peace of mind and perhaps even insure that you make it to your destination. Willoughby also has some suggestions for things to leave behind. Leave a copy of your itinerary, credit card numbers, travel documents, prescriptions, and a spare house key with someone you trust and whom you can reach in an emergency. Safety awareness doesn't stop once you're at your vacation location, says Willoughby "Be Safe and make it home!"

USAREUR & 7th Army

IMA, Europe Region



Volksmarche

Well, even though the format of your weekly travel section has changed, your volksmarch column continues!

While it will now typically be one page, the great part is that the column will continue to provide readers with IVV listings and information to help you make your walking and travel decisions. So, let's get to it!

First, don't forget about the Sunny Coyotes' annual volksmarch this Saturday and Sunday. Head to Lamborn, Germany, for the members' 12th volksmarch (the club moved from Landstuhl to Lamborn for this walk).

Jennifer West



Parking is difficult; you'll have to walk from the main road to the start hall. Also, for the dog owners: Fido can join you in the

even though you buy the start cards, but not where you buy food or drinks. You'd be better off leaving him in the car (windows cracked for ventilation, of course) and after your walk.

Start times for both Saturday and Sunday are 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the 5- and 10-kilometer trails and 6 a.m. to noon for the 20-kilometer trail. The prize is Bräu Gräfenstein, the next in the series of glass beer steins featuring castles in the Rheinland-Pfalz.

You can also support our smallest American volksmarching club by volunteering your time to help. Call Leonard Cotterell at (+49) (0) 6337-8732.

Notes about this week's events:

■ **Young-Walkers-Tour**, or **Bambini-Liga**, credit is available at Gieschweiler, Ilbeshausen-Hochwaldhausen, Löhnberg-Sellers, Oberschoffheim, Schechen and Töging (Sat., noon to 4 p.m.), Germany.

■ **To reach the walk** at Löhnberg-Sellers, take Autobahn 99 and then the Löhnhausen (München West) exit. The start location, Fa. Schmid (Firma Schmid) is on Löhnhauser Strasse 207, a three minute walk from S-Bahnhof.

■ **All three trails** at Schechen, Germany, are advertised as stroller-friendly and to add to the family atmosphere, you'll find "Der Heinz" entertaining the crowds on Saturday and Sunday at 10 a.m. in the start hall. Schechen lies 10 kilometers north of Rosenheim on B15.

■ **Head to the Ardennes** and the Battle of the Bulge locale this Saturday for the 32nd Marche Internationale in Malméd. The club sponsors 6-, 12- and 20-kilometer trails on both Saturday and Sunday, and a 42K marathon only on Saturday. Take time to travel the back roads after your walk and soak up some World War II history.

■ **A triathlon certificate** will go to folks who complete the walking, biking and swimming events at Ilbeshausen-Hochwaldhausen, Germany, this weekend. This club is also holding a Nordic Walking event on Saturday beginning at 9 p.m.

■ **A Mercedes CLK** race car is the souvenir at Linkenheim-Hochstetten, Germany. To take home this medal, walk 5, 11 or 20 kilometers or bike 30 kilometers on Sunday. B-medal bear mugs and VW/Karmann-Ghia models will also be available in limited quantities.

E-mail Jennifer West at volksmarch@maillistripes.com. Write her at: Stars and Stripes, Bldg. 2999, Palsatz Barracks, APO AE 09227-3717 (MPS).

Listings come from brochures of IVV-sanctioned events that were collected at volksmarches or mailed to Jennifer West by clubs. More extensive lists are available on the IVV Web site, www.ivv.org.

| Country/Town | Day(s) and Time(s) | Code | Km. | Starting Point | Award | Directional Reference |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Austria | | | | | | |
| Hirschegg | Fri 1700-1730 | F | 10 | Walsehaus | Souvenir | S of Sonthofen, GE |
| Hirschegg | Sat & Sun 0600-1100 | F | 6, 10, 20 | Walsehaus | Souvenir | S of Sonthofen, GE |
| Hirschegg | Sat 1600-1630 | F | 6 | Walsehaus | Souvenir | S of Sonthofen, GE |
| Belgium | | | | | | |
| Malméd | Sat & Sun 0600-1400 | - | 6, 12, 20 | Hall Omnisports | Certificate | N of St. Vith |
| Malméd | Sat 0600-0900 | M | 42 | Hall Omnisports | Certificate | N of St. Vith |
| Denmark | | | | | | |
| Fur | Sat 0800-1000 | - | 28 | Havn | No award | N of Skive |
| Germany | | | | | | |
| Asweiler | Sat 0700-1500, Sun 0600-1200 | F | 5, 10, 20 | Dorfgemeinschaftshaus | Porcelain plate | SAR, N of St. Wendel |
| Aurich | Sat & Sun 0600-1300 | F | 5, 10, 20 | Turn- und Festhalle | Model semi truck | BWN, SW of Wülfrath a.d. Enn. |
| Eisingen | Sat 1300-1800, Sun 0600-1200 | F | 6 & 10 | Mehrzweckhalle | Vase | FRU, SW of Würzburg |
| Eisingen | Sat 1300-1800, Sun 0600-1200 | F | 6 & 10 | Mehrzweckhalle | Vase | FRU, SW of Würzburg |
| Göschweiler | Sat 1200-1500, Sun 0700-1300 | FS | 6, 10, 20 | Bürgeraal | Stuffed bear | BWS, SE of Wülz |
| Hochdorf | Sat & Sun 0600-1300 | F | 5, 10, 20 | Kleinritzschthierheim | Model semi-truck | Schwerningen |
| Hoselgen | Sat 1200-1600, Sun 0600-1200 | BF | 5, 10, 20 | Vereinshaus | B-medal | BWN, SE of Esslingen |
| Ilbeshausen-Hochwaldhausen | Sat 1100-1800, Sun 0600-1300 | BFX | 5 & 10 | Haus des Gastes | B-medal | SCH, W of Landsberg am Lech |
| Ilbeshausen-Hochwaldhausen | Sat 1700 (Nordic walking) | BFX | 10 | Haus des Gastes | B-medal | HE, W of Fulda |
| Ilbeshausen-Hochwaldhausen | Sat 1100-1600, Sun 0600-1300 | BFX | 20 | Haus des Gastes | B-medal | HE, W of Fulda |
| Ilbeshausen-Hochwaldhausen | Sat 1100-1600, Sun 0600-1300 | Bike | 30 | Haus des Gastes | B-medal | HE, W of Fulda |
| Ilbeshausen-Hochwaldhausen | Sat 1100-1800, Sun 0700-1300 | Swim | 300/500m | Haus des Gastes | B-medal | HE, W of Fulda |
| Kehlen | Sat 1300-1600, Sun 0600-1300 | F | 5, 10, 20 | Turn- und Festhalle | Pen & pencil set | BWS, NE of Friedrichshafen |
| Kehlen | Sat 1300-1600, Sun 0600-1300 | Bike | 25 | Turn- und Festhalle | Pen & pencil set | BWS, NE of Friedrichshafen |
| Lamborn | Sat & Sun 0600-1300 | F | 5 & 10 | Dorfgemeinschaftshaus | Bear mug | RF, SW of Kaiserslautern |
| Lamborn | Sat & Sun 0600-1200 | F | 5, 10, 20 | Dorfgemeinschaftshaus | Bear mug | RF, SW of Kaiserslautern |
| Linkenheim-Hochstetten | Sun 0600-1400 | BFX | 5, 10, 20 | Schule | Stuffed husky | FRM, W of Fürt |
| Linkenheim-Hochstetten | Sun 0600-1400 | Bike | 30 | Kleinritzschthierheim | Model Mercedes CLK | BWN, NW of Karlsruhe |
| Löhnberg-Sellers | Fri 0700-1000, Sun 0700-1300 | BFX | 6 & 10 | Firma Schmid | Stuffed elephant | BWN, NW of Karlsruhe |
| Löhnberg-Sellers | Fri 0700-1000, Sun 0700-1300 | BFX | 20 | Dorfgemeinschaftshaus | Stuffed elephant | HE, SW of Weizlar |
| Oberschoffheim | Sat & Sun 0700-1300 | BFX | 5, 10, 20 | Alberghalle | B-medal | MOB, NW of München |
| Pegnitz | Sat & Sun 0600-1100 | FS | 5, 10, 20 | C-Sammler Schule | Candle holder | BWS, N of Lahr |
| Schechen | Sat & Sun 0600-1200 | SPS | 6 & 10 | Sortheim | Lantern | FRD, W of Gießen |
| Söhren/Hunsrück | Sat & Sun 0600-1400 | BDPFS | 10, 20 | Bürgerhalle | B-medal/Hedgehog pin | RF, N of Idar-Oberstein |
| Söhren/Hunsrück | Sat 0600-1200, Sun 0600-1200 | BDPFS | 20 | Bürgerhalle | B-medal/Hedgehog pin | RF, N of Idar-Oberstein |
| Töging | Sat 1200-1600, Sun 0600-1200 | F | 5, 10, 20 | Schloß von Töging | Rucksack | OPF, W of Regensburg |
| Töging | Sat 1600-1900 | F | 10, 20 | Schloß von Töging | Lock | OPF, W of Regensburg |
| Wiedgassen | Sat & Sun 0700-1400 | F | 6, 10, 20 | Schulturnhalle | No award | SAR, S of Saarbrücken |
| Wiesbaden-Naurod | Sun 0700-1400 | BFX2,5 | 6, 10, 20 | Kellerskopphalle | B-medal | HE, NE of Wiesbaden |
| Wiesbaden-Naurod | Sun 0700-1300 | BFX2,5 | 20 | Kellerskopphalle | B-medal | HE, NE of Wiesbaden |
| Luxembourg | | | | | | |
| Feulen | Sun 0700-1400 | F | 5 & 10 | Kulturzentrum | No award | SW of Bittburg, GE |
| Feulen | Sun 0700-1200 | F | 20 | Kulturzentrum | No award | SW of Bittburg, GE |
| Netherlands | | | | | | |
| Apeldoorn | Tue & Wed 0830-1000 | - | 20 | Sportscomplex | Souvenir | Churchhillpen 1 |
| Apeldoorn | Tue & Wed 0700-0930 | - | 30 | Sportscomplex | Souvenir | Churchhillpen 1 |
| Apeldoorn | Tue & Wed 0830-0730 | M | 40 | Sportscomplex | Souvenir | Churchhillpen 1 |
| Apeldoorn | Tue & Wed 0830-0700 | M | 50 | Sportscomplex | Souvenir | Churchhillpen 1 |
| St. Odilenberg | Wed 1600-1930 | - | 10 | Cafe Zaal Bergerac | No award | S of Roer |
| United Kingdom | | | | | | |
| Little Staughton | Sun 1000-1100 | - | 10 & 20 | The Crown | No award | NE of Bedford |
| Shrewton | Sat 1700-1800 | - | 10 | The George Inn | Souvenir | NE of Salisbury |

GENERAL NOTES:

B - Awards from past events available (B-medals)
D - Shower or wash facilities available at start hall
F - Free refreshment at control points
M - Marathon or long-distance event

P - Music at start hall (see miscellaneous notes for daytime)
S - Stroller-friendly trails
s - Shorter trail is noted as stroller-friendly
X - Award available only while supply lasts

GERMAN STATE REGION CODES:

BRB - Brandenburg
BWN - Baden-Württemberg Nord
BWS - Baden-Württemberg Süd
FRM - Mittelfranken (Middle Franken)
FRO - Frobenfranken (Upper Franken)
FRU - Unterfranken (Lower Franken)

HE - Hessen
MB - München-Oberbayern
MV - Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
NDS - Niedersachsen/Berlin
NRW - Nordrhein-Westfalen
NDB - Niederbayern

OPF - Oberpfalz
RP - Rheinland-Pfalz
SAR - Sachsen-Anhalt
SAR - Saarland
SCH - Schlesien
SHH - Schleswig-Holstein/Hamburg
THS - Thüringen/Sachsen

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PHOTOS BY THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL (MEMPHIS, TENN.)/AP

Isaac Hayes, left, and Justin Timberlake, right, watch as Scotty Moore pushes the switch to play Elvis Presley's "That's All Right" from Sun Studio in Memphis, Tenn., on Monday. Moore, Presley's first guitarist, played guitar on "That's All Right" in the studio on July 5, 1954.

Fans celebrate 50 years since Elvis recording

By WOODY BAIRD

The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Elvis Presley's "That's All Right" played simultaneously on radio stations around the world Monday to mark the 50th anniversary of the rock 'n' roll icon's first professional record.

Scotty Moore, Presley's first guitarist, hit a button on a control board at Sun Studio to begin the satellite broadcast to 1,200 to 1,500 stations.

Outside the small studio where Presley cut the record on July 5, 1954, a street party was under way, with bands performing on a sound stage at Sun's front door. More than 2,000 participants turned out by early afternoon.

"That's All Right" now enjoys a prominent place in the history of American music, but it wasn't an immediate hit.

"A lot of people think it was an overnight success, but we paid our dues for two years on the road in Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas before RCA picked us up," Moore said.

Music historians regard the recording of "That's All Right" as a milestone in American pop culture.

"Elvis would be the first to say he didn't create rock 'n' roll. Rock 'n' roll came from an evolutionary process going back probably to the 1940s," said Kevin Kane, director of the Memphis tourism bureau.

"But there was a defining moment that took place on July 5th, and we just figured this is as good a time as any to celebrate it."

Isaac Hayes, who recorded for Memphis' Stax Records in the 1960s and 1970s, and singer Justin Timberlake, a Memphis native, joined Moore for the ceremony.

"He brought a lot of cultures together," Hayes said of Presley. "He brought a lot of music together."



Moore, far left, and others take the stage during the street party in Memphis to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Presley's recording and subsequent climb to fame.

AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

| THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2004 | | | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| (AFN-EUROPE) | (AFN-KOREA) | (AFN-NEWS) | (AFN-SPORTS) | (SPECTRUM) | (AFN-PACIFIC) | |
| 9:00 Dr. Phil | Yu-Gi-Oh! | Nightline | Auto Racing American Le Mans Series (Taped) | The Wild Thornberys | Yu-Gi-Oh! | |
| 9:30 Oprah Winfrey | Jackie Chan | Army Newswatch | SpongeBob | The Simpsons | Jackie Chan | |
| 10:00 Guiding Light | Wheel of Fortune | Hardball With Chris Matthews | Happy Days | Headline News | Jeopardy! | |
| 11:00 ESPNNews | 60 Minutes II | | One Tree Hill 'Every Night Is Another Story' | Headline News | Headline News | |
| 11:30 General Hospital | Advisory Block | The O'Reilly Factor | SportsCenter | The Wild Thornberys | Pacific Report | |
| 12:00 Headline News | Everybody-Ramond | | | The Wild Wing 'Guns N' Butter' | Everybody-Ramond | |
| 12:30 Judge Judy | Scrub | Today | | Domink Dunge: Power, Privilege & Justice | Scrub | |
| 13:00 Today | Who Wants to Marry My Dad? | Good Morning America | Cycling Tour de France - Stage 4, Stage 4 team time trial from Cambal to Arns, France (Taped) | Journeys to the Ends of the Earth | ER 'The Student' | |
| 13:30 | | | | | | |
| 14:00 | | | | | | |
| 15:00 | Asahi! Real Monsters | Pacific Report | SportsCenter | Movie 'Last Seen Wearing' (1988) John Thaw, Inspector Morse probes a girl's disappearance. | Extreme Makeover | |
| 15:30 Hey Arnold! | The Tonight Show | World News | | | The Tonight Show | |
| 16:00 Yu-Gi-Oh! | | The Early Show | Totally NASCAR | | | |
| 16:30 Jackie Chan | Late Show | | Pardon the Intrp'n | | Late Show | |
| 17:00 Jeopardy! | Access Hollywood | | SportsCenter | The Wild Thornberys | | |
| 17:30 Headline News | | | | SpongeBob | Access Hollywood | |
| 18:00 Destinations | Movie *** 'Pump Up the Volume' (1990, Jamal Christian Sater, Samantha Mathis. | FOX News | ESPNNews | The Simpsons | Movie *** 'Pump Up the Volume' (1990, Jamal Christian Sater, Samantha Mathis. | |
| 18:30 AFN Evening News | | | Baseball Tonight | Happy Days | | |
| 19:00 Everybody-Ramond | | 60 Minutes II | ESPN2: Then and Now | One Tree Hill 'Every Night Is Another Story' | | |
| 19:30 Scrubs | | FOX News | MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. Live | The Wild Wing 'Guns N' Butter' | | |
| 20:00 Extreme Makeover | Movie *** 'Beverly Hills Cop' (1984, Dennis Edie Murphy, Judge Reinhold, Lisa Eilbacher. | | | Domink Dunge: Power, Privilege & Justice | Movie *** 'Beverly Hills Cop' (1984, Dennis Edie Murphy, Judge Reinhold, Lisa Eilbacher. | |
| 20:30 | | Headline News | | Journeys to the Ends of the Earth | | |
| 21:00 ER 'The Student' | | Inside Politics | | | | |
| 21:30 | | | | | | |
| 22:00 Headline News | The Hot List | | | | The Hot List | |
| 22:30 The Tonight Show | Headline News | Army Newswatch | | | | |
| 23:00 | Today | Lester Holt | Around the Horn | Movie 'Last Seen Wearing' (1988) John Thaw. | Today | |
| 23:30 Late Show | | | Pardon the Intrp'n | | | |
| FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2004 | | | | | | |
| 00:00 (11:30) Late Show | (11:00) Today | Headline News | SportsCenter | (11:00) Movie 'Last Seen Wearing' (1988) | (11:00) Today | |
| 00:30 Access Hollywood | | NBC Nightly News | | | | |
| 1:00 MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. Live | Sesame Street | ABC World News | Sports Reporters | The Wild Thornberys | Sesame Street | |
| 1:30 | | CBS Evening News | Totally NASCAR | SpongeBob | | |
| 2:00 | Little Bill | Countdown With Keith Olbermann | WNBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced | The Simpsons | Little Bill | |
| 2:30 | Rugrats (Part 2 of 2) | | | Dead Zone | Wheel of Fortune | |
| 3:00 | Dr. Phil | Hannity & Colmes | | The Dead Zone | Dr. Phil | |
| 3:30 | | | | | | |
| 4:00 ESPNNews | Oprah Winfrey | The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer | Rodeo PRCA. (Taped) | Boston Public 'Chapter Nineteen' | Oprah Winfrey | |
| 4:30 ESPNNews | | | | | | |
| 5:00 Headline News | NBC Nightly News | BET Nightly News | Rodeo PRCA. (Taped) | The Crocodile Hunter 'The Crocodile Hunter' | NBC Nightly News | |
| 5:30 ESPNNews | Judge Judy | Business Rpt. | | Animal Adventures | Judge Judy | |
| 6:00 Headline News | Access Hollywood | Larry King Live | Baseball Tonight | World-Wildlife | Access Hollywood | |
| 6:30 Headline News | Guiding Light | | | Animal Adventures | Guiding Light | |
| 7:00 | Sesame Street | Nightline | ESPNNews | Buff the Vampire Slayer 'Hell's Bells' | General Hospital | |
| 7:30 | | General Hospital | Pardon the Intrp'n | | | |
| 8:00 Little Bill | PrimeTime Thursday | Paula Zahn Now | SportsCenter | The X-Files 'Alpha' | House of Mouse | |
| 8:30 Wheel of Fortune | Rock's Modern Life | | | | Ozzy & Drix 'Ozzy Jr.' | |
| 9:00 Dr. Phil | The Mummy | Nightline | MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. Live | The Wild Thornberys | Ozzy & Drix 'Ozzy Jr.' | |
| 9:30 Jeopardy! | Ar Toyl by Ginger | Headline News | | The Simpsons | Ar Toyl by Ginger | |
| 10:00 Oprah Winfrey | Hardball With Chris Matthews | | | Happy Days | Headline News | |
| 10:30 Guiding Light | Wheel of Fortune | PrimeTime Thursday | | The Dead Zone | ESPNNews | |
| 11:00 | ESPNNews | | | | | |
| 11:30 General Hospital | Advisory Block | The O'Reilly Factor | SportsCenter | Boston Public 'Chapter Nineteen' | General Hospital | |
| 12:00 Headline News | The Simpsons | Good Morning America | Baseball Tonight | The Crocodile Hunter 'The Crocodile Hunter' | The Apprentice 'Ice Escapes' | |
| 12:30 Judge Judy | Malcolm in the Middle | | | World-Wildlife | Malcolm in the Middle | |
| 13:00 Today | The Apprentice 'Ice Escapes' | | | MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. Live | Alas 'After Six' | |
| 13:30 | The District Police headquarters is quarantined. | | | | | |
| 14:00 | | | | Buff the Vampire Slayer 'Hell's Bells' | Pacific Report | |
| 14:30 | | | | | The Tonight Show | |
| 15:00 House of Mouse | Pacific Report | Headline News | | The X-Files 'Alpha' | Late Show | |
| 15:30 Rock's Modern Life | The Tonight Show | World News | | | | |
| 16:00 Ozzy & Drix 'Ozzy Jr.' | Late Show | The Early Show | | | | |
| 16:30 As Told by Ginger | | | | | | |
| 17:00 Jeopardy! | | | SportsCenter | The Wild Thornberys | | |
| 17:30 Headline News | Access Hollywood | | | SpongeBob | Access Hollywood | |
| 18:00 ESPNNews | Movie *** 'Casaban' c' (1942, Doris Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, Paul Herher. | FOX News | Baseball Tonight | The Simpsons | Movie *** 'Groundhog Day' (1996, Comedy Bill Murray, Andie MacDowell, Chris Elliott. | |
| 18:30 AFN Evening News | | | | Happy Days | | |
| 19:00 The Simpsons | | Primetime Thursday | SportsCenter | The Dead Zone | | |
| 19:30 Malcolm in the Middle | | | | | | |
| 20:00 The Apprentice 'Ice Escapes' | Movie *** 'Double Jeopardy' (1999, Susan Sarandon, Timothy Lee Jones, Ashley Judd. | FOX News | Basemasters Elite 50 From Russellville, Ark. | Boston Public 'Chapter Nineteen' | Movie *** 'The First Wives Club' (1996, Comedy Goldie Hawn, Bette Midler, Diane Keaton. | |
| 21:00 Alas 'After Six' | | Headline News | | The Wild Thornberys | | |
| 21:30 | | Inside Politics | | World-Wildlife | | |
| 22:00 Headline News | Today | | | Aussie Rules Highlights | | |
| 22:30 The Tonight Show | | Headline News | | Animal Adventures | | |
| 23:00 | | Lester Holt | Around the Horn | Buff the Vampire Slayer 'Hell's Bells' | | |
| 23:30 Late Show | | | Pardon the Intrp'n | | | |

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STARS AND STRIPES

FACES 'N' PLACES

Simon says keep a low profile

Singer/songwriter credits long-lasting fame to her homebody ways

BY COLLEEN LONG
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Singer/songwriter Carly Simon has managed to remain a household name for more than 20 years, even though she's only performed live about 75 times.

She says being just under the radar keeps her afloat. Simon recently released "Reflections: Carly Simon's Greatest Hits," on BMG Heritage. The CD is a comprehensive collection of all her big hits, including "You Belong to Me," "Haven't Got Time for the Pain," and, of course, "You're So Vain."

She's also making a cameo appearance in the new film "Little Black Book," which stars Brittany Murphy as a woman who loves Simon's music. And designer Michael Kors has created a clothing line inspired by the "hippie chick" style Simon made famous in the mid-1970s.

After years of a high-profile life and romances with the likes of James Taylor and Warren Beatty, Simon, 58, has become a homebody. She lives in Martha's Vineyard, on a farm she calls modest, with horses, donkeys, cats and sheep. Her two children have small cottages on her property, and she spends most of her time writing and singing.

Q: You don't do many concerts, is it because you're shy?

A: I'm shy but that's not the reason for not touring. It's been very hard for me to put into words, to put it into some kind of understandable format, even for me. It has to do with a combination of the fact that I'm an anxiety prone person and I'm prone to attacks. I can wig out. I can wig out in a department store or in a social situation, at a dinner party, or in a restaurant. The stage isn't the only place I can do it, but that has some adverse conditions, you can't get off. I've only done about 75 concerts.

Q: Many people say they perform for the rush, and they love the crowds. Do you miss not being able to tour?

A: Well, I interpret adrenaline as something dangerous. I like to sing with a certain amount of steam behind my voice, energy, and I push on it. My little vocal cords haven't been trained or are too fragile. I can't really sustain a tour. I would like to be able to tour, but not so much that I myself this stuff.

It would be wonderful to have the kind of record sales I could have if I did tour, but I'm also a homebody par excellence, and to get me to leave my home and its environs is tough.

Q: How do you think you've managed to stay afloat without touring?

A: Ironically, I think that being so low profile has kept me fresh. I've never worn myself out. I've never latched onto what's hip at the moment. I've basically followed the beat of my own drummer all along.

Q: Your songs are known for being very personal. Is it difficult to be so open?



Carly Simon poses with her guitar at her home in Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

A: Well don't forget the poetic license. I can shift dramatically at any point, so you never know how close or not close it is to reality. That's the beauty of being a poet or a songwriter. You don't have to sign a declaration saying this is all true. But there is something from my own experience in just about every song.

Q: You've also had very public relationships, especially with James Taylor. Was it hard to be married in the public eye?

A: There was a very positive competition between James and I, but I invariably felt like that was seen as negative by outsiders. But really, nothing made me angrier than when James got a less-than-perfect review. One of my better talents is that I'm an editor, and I was able to help James in that way. I used to be able to suggest he use another word, and he did the same for me. It worked really well.

Q: Do you still talk to him?

A: No, he's taken that from our relationship. We have two kids but they're grown. It wasn't because we parted ways so poorly, I'm sure you can think of another reason.

Q: Are you lonely?

A: Well I've been married for about 17 years to a poet named Jim Hart,

but we're not together right now. God, I feel there are so many things about life that work with each other but sometimes against each other. I really want to be with a partner. On the other hand, I may have gone too long without one. I may have gotten too deep into the alone habits.

Q: Why did you decide to tell someone last year who "You're So Vain" is about after all this time?

A: Well it's just not that big of a deal. Dick Ebersol and some of his friends came over to my house, we had peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, I played the song and I told them who it was about. They're sworn to secrecy.

Q: I don't suppose you want to tell me?

A: Nope. Sorry. But the letters E, A and R are in it.

Q: But why not? I mean, since you already told these other people and you say it's not a big deal?

A: Oh, it would be anticlimactic now. I've gone this far not telling, so why bother telling now?

Kenny Rogers, wife have twins

Singer Kenny Rogers and his wife, Wanda, are the parents of identical twin boys.

The twins were born Tuesday morning in Atlanta, according to Claire Cook with Dreamcatcher Entertainment.

Justin Charles weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces, and his twin brother, Jordan Edward, weighed 5 pounds, 8 ounces.

Wanda Rogers is an identical twin, and twins also run in Kenny Rogers' family, Cook said.

The 65-year-old singer has three children from previous marriages.

During his long career, Rogers has had dozens of hits on the pop and country charts, including "Lucille," "The Gambler" and "Lady."



Rogers

Sales heating up for Clinton book

Bill Clinton's memoir apparently has cooked up a lot of interest for another book connected to the former president.

Two weeks ago, just before the release of Clinton's autobiography "My Life," a cookbook released by Clinton's library foundation ranked a modest 80,000th on the Amazon.com sales list.

As of Monday, it had climbed to 2,035th.

"I can only assume that 'My Life' has something to do with it," said Skip Rutherford, president of Clinton's nonprofit foundation.

"My Life" has been No. 1 on Amazon.com since its June 22 release.

Rutherford said there's no other explanation for such rapid sales growth for a cookbook released for general distribution in January. It started out as a self-published fund-raising effort last fall by the Clinton Foundation, but was later spruced up for national and international distribution by Sedgewood Press.



Clinton

Softening up 'King Arthur'

Producer Jerry Bruckheimer didn't mind shedding some of the blood and violence in his latest action flick, "King Arthur."

Battle scenes were edited to bring the movie in at a PG-13 rating instead of the original R rating.

"You want to fill as many seats as you can, and if you're limited by 17 and over, it's much harder," Bruckheimer said last month.

Disney, the film's distributor, originally planned to release the movie in the fall, a more adult-oriented season when the R rating would have made sense. After the movie was moved to the more competitive summer, filmmakers wanted to broaden the audience, Bruckheimer said.

Directed by Antoine Fuqua ("Training Day"), "King Arthur" stars Clive Owen in the title role and Keira Knightley as Guinevere.

'90210' star Spelling weds

Actress Tori Spelling, best known for her role as Donna on TV's "Beverly Hills 90210," has married, her publicist said Monday.

Spelling, 31, and actor-writer Charlie Sheehan got married Saturday at her parents' home in Holmby Hills, Calif., publicist Cecie Yorke said. It is their first marriage for both.

Spelling, the daughter of television producer Aaron Spelling, spent 10 years on his hit series "Beverly Hills 90210." She also has appeared in the films "Scary Movie 2," "Scream 2," and "Troop Beverly Hills."

The couple met on stage in 2002 during the Los Angeles production of the romantic comedy, "Maybe Baby's You," co-written by Sheehan, 35. The two actors were in 11 vignettes about couples in search of love.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Spelling



Bruckheimer

Horoscope

The sun passes Saturn in Cancer's protective realm. Saturn likes to crack the whip, stiffen the discipline and get organized. The focus of this energy is the home. When you clear the clutter from your desk, garage and countertops, you'll really be clearing the clutter from your mind. The moon in Aries gives you energy to work tirelessly.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 8). You create situations in which you can succeed this year — how brilliant!

This month, start small, and generate business from the ground up. Finances are hefty improved in September through your tenacious work. Leadership is featured, both at work and at home in the early fall. The new year includes romance, weddings and travel.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

There's a sparkling energy about your world, blue skies and all that. You're in a forgiving mood, or maybe it's just that you refuse to be bothered. Even the troublemakers in your life are reduced to having only the power to amuse you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

Think deeply about a loved one's request.

If you answer honestly, you will probably say "no." Developing a larger vocabulary will enable you to take your way into getting more of what you want out of life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

You accomplish so much on your own that it's almost an annoyance to try and motivate others — they're just not getting it. They'll understand later. Try to be gentle with loved ones, letting them set the pace.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

Keeping busy won't be a problem. Relaxing might be. You take day-to-day details very seriously. Colleagues trust you implicitly to make the right move for the company. Your star quality attracts business and romance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Today has an element of mischief, levity and whimsy. Experience is favored over talking things to death — just jump in and see what it's really like.

Too much conversation clouds the true meaning instead of making it clear.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Attitude counts more than talent or education. You cheerfully give people more than they expect, a cornerstone principle of your ultimate success. Singles have laughs with a Sagittarius or Capricorn.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your courage is high. Some of you will deliver a business proposal, an invitation to dance or even a relationship ultimatum. You're in an outgoing mood and will be driven to get to know and accept people on a new level.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Just when you were resigned to a hard-working fate doing a thankless job, several new possibilities take you by surprise. Consider your options carefully, but don't be afraid to be spontaneous. Your instincts are right on.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The artist in you needs a voice. Creative efforts inform even your most logically minded tasks. Allowing yourself to be bad at an activity is the key to getting good or even brilliant at it. Be easy on yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Though it's difficult to imagine anyone's way being better than your own right now, you can overcome adversity with relative ease by remaining flexible. New relationships are taking the path you thought they would.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Early in the day, you feel like you're scatter-shooting your way through the hours, desperately trying to complete each task just well enough to move on to the next. Creative energy accompanies this frenetic state.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your internal weather is gorgeous. Even if you're busy at work, part of you is off sailing a ship across a glassy sea. It's not that you've forgotten completely about the deadline, but what's the point on dwelling on it?

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



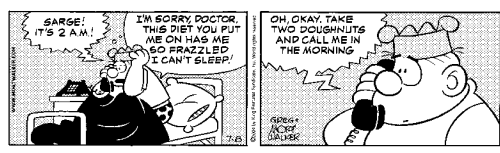
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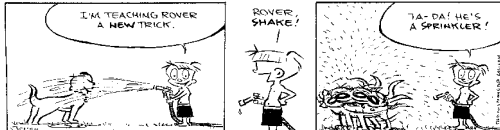
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red Rover



Better or Worse



Peanuts



He'll take Chicago: White Sox, Garcia agree to \$27M deal

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Pitcher Freddy Garcia plans to stay with the Chicago White Sox for a while.

Garcia signed a \$27 million, three-year contract extension with the White Sox on Tuesday, just 10 days after being traded from Seattle.

The 28-year-old right-hander was eligible to become a free agent after this season. But the White Sox traded for him June 27 in the hope they could sign him to a longer deal.

Garcia's longtime friendship with White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen was thought to be a selling point. Guillen also is from Venezuela and is the second cousin of Garcia's fiancée.

"Ozzie had a tremendous role in it," White Sox General Manager Ken Williams said. "The stars ended up ultimately aligning, but I think there was a little bit of aid in them aligning."

Guillen agreed his friendship with Garcia added the signing.

"We talked about it the last three or four days," Guillen said. "We've always hung around together, on and off the field in Venezuela and Florida. Now having him in Chicago, I'm going to spend more time with him than my own kids."

Garcia will earn \$8 million in 2005, \$9 million in 2006 and \$10 million in 2007.



Garcia

"I think obviously for everyone's focus, for everyone's benefit, we needed to get this done as soon as possible," Williams said. "Fortunately, he was open-minded to it and receptive to the numbers we were talking about."

Garcia, who lost his home debut 6-2 to Anaheim on Tuesday night, is 5-8 with a 3.42 ERA and 98 strikeouts in 17 combined starts with the Mariners and White Sox this year. But those numbers are somewhat misleading because he's received only 2.71 runs of support per nine innings, lowest in the American League.

He currently is fifth in the AL in baserunners per nine innings (10.99) and strikeouts, and sixth in ERA. Since the start of the 2001 season, Garcia ranks third in the AL with innings pitched (776.2), fifth in strikeouts (578) and eighth in wins (51).

A two-time All-Star, Garcia is 77-50 with a 3.90 ERA and 828 strikeouts in five-plus seasons.

Garcia was acquired from the Mariners with catcher Ben Davis and cash for catcher Miguel Olivo and minor leaguers Jeremy Reed and Michael Morse.

Sosa, Griffey in HR derby

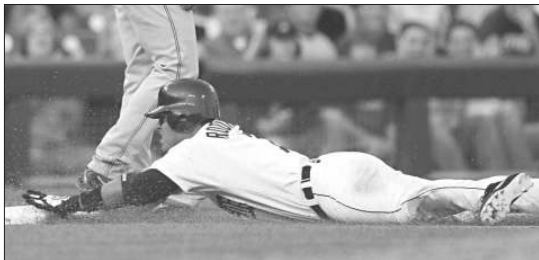
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Philadelphia's Jim Thome, Cincinnati's Ken Griffey Jr. and the Chicago Cubs' Sammy Sosa will represent the National League in next week's All-Star Home Run Derby.

The New York Yankees' Jason

Giambi, Boston's David Ortiz and Baltimore's Rafael Palmeiro will be among the American League players to participate in the competition next Monday night in Houston.

One additional player from each league will be picked, the commissioner's office said Wednesday.



Detroit Tigers' Ivan Rodriguez dives into third base with a triple in a June game against the Cleveland Indians. Rodriguez, the starting catcher for the AL's All-Star team, is 14 away from recording his 2,000th career hit.

Rodriguez: No catcher better than Pudge at — or behind — the plate

RODRIGUEZ, FROM BACK PAGE

"And Pudge is as physical a catcher as there is. He controls the running game like no else in the game. There is so much concentration involved working behind the plate. It's the mental part of catching that wears you out, and it often shows up at bat. I remember Del Crandall, who was an All-Star catcher, would get so frustrated. He was so caught up in working with his pitcher that he felt he was giving away at-bats because he couldn't focus at the plate."

There's no doubt that Rodriguez, who was batting .371 entering Wednesday's game and had a 24-point lead, is focused. He was the AL player of the month for June, when he hit .500 with 43 hits in 86 at-bats.

The rigors of their position make catchers unlikely challengers for a batting title. Only three have been runners-up — Spud Davis (.349) with the Phillies in 1933, Ted Simmons (.332) with the Cardinals in 1975 and Mike Piazza (.346) with the Dodgers in 1995. Piazza finished third in batting twice and fourth once and is the only catcher to rank in the top five four times.

Rodriguez has never finished

in the top five in batting. His highest average in a season in which he had the required plate appearances for a batting title was the .332 he hit in his MVP year of 1999 for the Rangers. That placed him seventh among the league's top hitters.

"It's very tough what he is doing," Yankees catcher Jorge Posada said. "You have so much to think about when you're catching a game that hitting is the last thing you do. You'll be talking with a pitcher about opposing hitters or warning someone up or checking with the pitching coach about something, and then someone will tap you on the shoulder and tell you it's time for batting practice. Oh, yeah, that's right. I have to hit, too. For a catcher to win a batting title, that's a tough task. Skip did it, though."

Posada was half right. Torre led the NL in hitting with a .363 average for the Cardinals in 1971, but he played third base exclusively that year. He was the Braves' regular catcher for eight years before being traded to St. Louis for first baseman Orlando Cepeda in 1969 and inheriting his position. Torre divided time between catcher and third base in 1970 and shifted to third full-time the next year.

As a catcher, Torre had some strong offensive seasons. Twice he hit over .300, including .321 in 1964, when he finished fourth in the batting race won by Pirates right fielder Roberto Clemente (.339).

"As a manager, I feel whatever the catcher gives me offensively is gravy," Torre said. "I know when I was a catcher I felt if I did a good job behind the plate and helped guide my pitcher to a victory, then it didn't matter if I got a hit. I could go 0-for-4 in those circumstances and still feel I contributed something to a victory. I lost that when I went to the infield. Your at-bats stay with you at positions other than catcher."

"Just watching what George (Posada) does through makes me appreciate what a catcher does," said Yankees batting coach Don Mattingly, the 1984 AL batting champion. "It's still too early in the year to be talking about batting titles. We're not really into the heat yet."

As the temperatures rise in July and August, Rodriguez could watch his average drop, although Torre is not so sure.

"Don't forget, Pudge was in Miami all last year," Torre said. "Detroit might seem like a vacation to him."

RBI leader Rolen playing through pain of sore left knee

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Scott Rolen expects to be able to play despite his sore left knee after an MRI revealed irritation in the joint Tuesday.

The Cardinals' All-Star third baseman has been bothered by the knee for about a month, but it mostly affects him on the basepaths.

He leads the major leagues with 80 RBIs. "It's handling it all right, and it's actually getting a little better," trainer Barry Weinberg said. "He's pretty active so he's going to use a little bit and it flames up, and then it goes down."

Rolen said he and Dr. George Paletta, the Cardinals' physician, discussed a series of injections that would cushion the

knee. But he's holding off, at least for now.

Rolen intends to play in the All-Star game July 13 in Houston.

"It's manageable," he said. Rolen made his 81st start of the season Tuesday, more than any other Cardinals player.

"I just think he's not the type that's going to sit around and give a lot of complaints," manager Tony La Russa said. "I don't think he's 100 percent, but 100 percent for him is super."

"A little less than that and you're still doing really well compared to everybody else."

Marlins' Beckett returns to DL

MIAMI — World Series MVP Josh Beckett was placed on the 15-day disabled list Tuesday after tearing skin on his right mid-

dle finger, one day after returning from a bad injury.

Beckett was activated before Monday night's 3-1 loss to the Pirates. He was removed after throwing 13 pitches over four innings in just his second start since May 30.

It's Beckett's third trip to the DL this season. He's been sidelined because of a blister on his right middle finger and a strained muscle in his back.

Larkin hedging on planned retirement

ST. LOUIS — Cincinnati shortstop Barry Larkin has asked the Reds to cancel his retirement ceremonies planned for the final weekend of the season because he's not sure this will be his last year.

"Right now, I would like to leave my options as a player open for 2005," Larkin said in a statement Tuesday.

Larkin, 40, was picked this weekend for his 12th All-Star team.

The Reds' captain was hitting .295 with four homers and 31 RBIs going into Tuesday night's game at St. Louis.

Calf sprain sidelines Rangers' Perry

CLEVELAND — The Texas Rangers placed infielder Herbert Perry on the 15-day disabled list Tuesday with a sprained right calf.

Perry is batting .292 with five homers and 17 RBIs.

Expos place RHP Day on 15-day DL

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Montreal Expos right-hander Zach Day was placed on the 15-day disabled list Tuesday with right shoulder tendinitis.

Montreal recalled left-hander Chad Benz from Triple-A Edmonton.

MLB

briefs

Red Sox relish home field after rough trip

The Associated Press

BOSTON — The Boston Red Sox returned home from a rotten road trip and got themselves a feel-good win.

Tim Wakefield pitched seven innings of three-hit ball, and Johnny Damon singled five times as Boston rebounded with an 11-0 victory over the Oakland Athletics, a potential rival in the playoff race.

The Red Sox returned to Fenway Park after going 1-5 on the road, including a three-game sweep by the division-leading Yankees.

Boston is 29-31 since May 1, squandering a three-game lead in the AL East.

Oakland and Texas are tied for first in the AL West, two games ahead of the Red Sox in the wild-card standings; Boston trails the Yankees by seven games in the East.

"We both know where we stand and we both know we are fighting for the same thing right now," said Wakefield, who won for the first time since May 23. "It was huge for all the guys in the clubhouse in there. We needed to win this one."

Bill Mueller hit a three-run homer in the second inning, and the Red Sox scored four times in the fourth off Barry Zito (4-6), and again in the fifth off Justin Lirio.

"This is the 2004 Red Sox that you see," first baseman Kevin Millar said Tuesday night after Boston turned the halfway point in the season. "This is the first time we're back in our house with our lineup."

Winless in seven previous starts, Wakefield (5-5) did not



Boston Red Sox left fielder Manny Ramirez gestures toward the dugout after reaching base in the first inning against the Oakland Athletics on Tuesday in Boston. The Red Sox defeated the AL West-leading A's 11-0.

allow a runner until Marco Scutaro hit a liner that drifted away from right fielder Trot Nixon for a double with two outs in the third.

Only one other batter reached second against Wakefield, who struck out six and walked one.

Zito allowed seven runs — six earned — on nine hits and three walks in four innings, walking in two runs in the fourth. The 2002 AL Cy Young Award winner is winless in five starts.

"A lot of pitches they hit were good pitches," he said.

"I had great stuff. The prepara-

tion was great."

Angels 6, White Sox 2: Jeff D'Amico hit a three-run homer off Freddy Garcia, who lost his first home start with the White Sox.

Garcia (5-8) struck out his first four batters and seven in eight innings, but allowed seven hits, two walks and four earned runs after agreeing on a \$27 million, three-year contract extension earlier in the day. Chicago has lost four straight.

John Lackey (6-8) allowed four hits in seven innings.

Twins 4, Royals 0: At Minneap-

olis, Johan Santana pitched a three-hitter for his first career complete game and tied his high with 13 strikeouts.

Tori Hunter homered in the second inning for the Twins, and the Royals lost their season-high seventh straight.

Santana (7-5) reached double-digit strikeouts for the fifth time in his last six outings.

Kansas City rookie Zack Greinke (1-6) lost his fifth straight start.

Tigers 9, Yankees 1: Jason Johnson pitched eight dominant

innings and Rondell White and Bobby Higginson hit two-run homers to help Detroit end a five-game skid. Johnson (6-7) retired his first 12 batters.

The Tigers won for the first time at Yankee Stadium since Sept. 7, 2002.

Mike Mussina (9-6) gave up seven runs on nine hits working on three days' rest.

Devil Rays 3, Orioles 1: Mark Hendrickson pitched eight shut-out innings and the visiting Devil Rays halted a three-game losing streak.

Hendrickson (6-6) allowed six hits, struck out two and walked one. Danys Baez pitched the ninth for his 17th save.

Rodrigo Lopez (6-5) gave up three runs on eight hits in 6 2/3 innings.

Blue Jays 7, Mariners 6: Carlos Delgado doubled in the first at-bat off the disabled list, and Reed Johnson and Josh Phelps homered in a six-run first inning for hot Toronto.

Delgado, who missed 33 games because of a strained ribcage, went 1-for-3.

Miguel Batista (8-5) won his fourth straight start. Rookie Jason Frasor pitched the ninth for his ninth save.

Jamie Moyer (6-5) lost his third straight decision.

Indians 4, Rangers 1: At Cleveland, the Indians halted a three-game losing streak and reliever Bob Wickman pitched for the first time in almost two years.

Wickman allowed one hit in the eighth in his return from "Tommy John" surgery.

Starter Cliff Lee (8-1) allowed four hits and struck out five, and David Riske picked up his third save.

Texas starter Nick Bierbrodt (1-1) allowed three runs and one hit, but walked seven.

Dodgers closer Gagne starts new save streak

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Eric Gagne was back to his usual dominant self.

A day after his major league-record streak of 84 saves came to an end, Gagne pitched a scoreless ninth to preserve the Los Angeles Dodgers' fourth straight win, 4-1 over Arizona on Tuesday night.

"A feat ended last night like none other than we've ever seen, and probably won't ever see again," Los Angeles manager Jim Tracy said. "And if it does happen, it'll more than likely be him."

On Monday night, Gagne came in with a 5-3 lead, but allowed RBI hits to Luis Gonzalez and Chad Tracy that tied the game.

He received an ovation after Tracy's hit tied the score, and another when he came off the field. Fans at Dodger Stadium even clamored for a curtain call, and he obliged.

Tuesday night, he welcomed the chance to preserve another lead.

Jose Lima (7-3) held the Dia-



mondbacks to one run on seven hits in seven innings and Adrian Beltré hit a two-run homer to give the Dodgers the lead in a three-run sixth inning.

Lima stranded a runner at third in the seventh, stabbing a comebacker by Scott Hairston and throwing to first.

"In the seventh inning, you don't want to let them back in the game, because you saw what happened last night," Lima said. "Not that I worried about Gagne, because Gagne's not human. Gagne makes pitching look too easy. And pitching's not easy."

After that, Darren Dreifort pitched a hitless eighth and the Dodgers handed Gagne the lead in the ninth.

"It was good to go back in there right away and get the little demons out," Gagne said.

He retired his first two batters, Quinton McCracken and Robby Hammock, but then pinch-hitter Roberto Alomar singled.

Gagne reacted as he has since taking over the closer's job for Los Angeles early in the 2002 season. He struck out pinch-hitter Tim Lincecum with a 95 mph fastball, earning his 22nd save of the season — in 23 chances.

Braves 1, Expos 0: At San Juan, Puerto Rico, Russ Ortiz pitched seven scoreless innings to put the Braves over .500 for the first time in nearly a month.

Atlanta (42-41) has won nine of 12 since June 24. They last had a winning record (29-28) on June 9.

Ortiz (9-6) pitched seven innings, allowed three hits, walked three and struck out three. John Smoltz got the final four outs for his 15th save.

Marlins 6, Pirates 3: Visiting Pittsburgh's 10-game winning streak ended, with Alex Gonzalez hitting a tiebreaking, three-run homer in the seventh inning.

The Pirates' streak in their longest since an 11-game season from Sept. 12-22, 1996.

Dontrelle Willis, last season's NL Rookie of the Year, remained winless in four starts since June 13. Armando Benitez pitched a

perfect ninth for his 28th save in 30 chances.

Mets 4, Phillies 1: At Philadelphia, Al Leiter (5-2) pitched seven solid innings and Kaz Matsui went 3-for-5, helping the Mets pull within two games of the NL East-leading Phillies. New York has won five of six.

Braden Looper got his 17th save in 19 chances. Richard Hidalgo's team-record streak of homers in consecutive games ended at five.

Cardinals 5, Reds 3: Jim Edmonds homered and saved one with his glove, and Edgar Renteria hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the seventh inning for host St. Louis.

Matt Morris (9-6) overcame a shaky second to work seven solid innings for St. Louis (51-32), which won its fifth straight to improve the NL's best record.

Brewers 4, Cubs 2: Keith Ginter hit a two-run homer off Mark Prior (3-2) and Victor Santos (8-3) won for the sixth time in seven starts, allowing two runs and five hits in 6 2/3 innings for homestanding Milwaukee.

Milwaukee is 43-38, its first winning record at the halfway point since 1998. Dan Kolb pitched the ninth for his 26th save.

Padres 5, Astros 3: Brian Giles and Mark Loretta hit solo home runs to lead San Diego to its eighth straight home win. The NL West-leading Padres have won five in a row overall and 12 of their past 15.

Houston has lost three straight, dropping nine games behind first-place St. Louis in the NL Central.

Ismael Valdez (7-5) combined with four relievers on a five-hit-ter.

Rockies 9, Giants 6: Jeremy Burnitz homered and drove in three runs, including a go-ahead single in the ninth, for visiting Colorado.

Burnitz singled off Jason Christensen (1-2) with two outs.

Shawn Canham pitched the ninth for his 19th save in 25 chances, walking Barry Bonds and Drew Meri with one out before AJ Pierzynski popped up and Marquis Grissom hit a grounder to second to end it.

Bryant meets with Nuggets

Denver has cap room to attract free agents

The Associated Press

DENVER — Kobe Bryant has met with Denver General Manager Kiki Vandeweghe, opening up the possibility that the Lakers free agent could be moving his basketball home to the state where he will stand trial for sexual assault next month.

A Nuggets source told The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity Tuesday that Bryant had a meeting with the Nuggets GM on Monday.

Denver, which was some \$23 million under the salary cap before re-signing center Marcus Camby last week, is expected to target top free agents before next season.

New Jersey forward Kenyon Martin, Los Angeles Clippers guard Quentin Richardson, Portland forward Darius Miles and San Antonio sharpshooter Manu Ginobili have all been mentioned as possibilities.

Denver made the playoffs in a huge turnaround last season, with budding superstar Carmelo Anthony leading the way. But the possibility of landing All-Star Bryant is apparently too good to pass up — despite his legal troubles.

Bryant has pleaded not guilty to felony sexual assault. If convicted, he faces four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation, and a fine up to \$750,000. The trial begins Aug. 27.

The Lakers still hope to bring Bryant back, General Manager Mitch Kupchak said.

"I'm in constant contact with Kobe and his representatives," he said at a news conference in Los Angeles.

Pistons' Wallace meets with Dumas

Detroit — Rasheed Wallace



Briefs

met with Joe Dumars on Tuesday, the first face-to-face conversation the forward has had with the Detroit Pistons since helping them win the NBA title last month.

"The meeting with Rasheed went well," Dumars said in an interview late Tuesday night with The Associated Press. "But there's nothing else to report right now."

Wallace, an unrestricted free agent who made \$17 million last season, declined to talk about his future plans.

While few teams could pay Wallace what Detroit can, Dumars said two weeks ago he refused to negotiate with him as if the Pistons were bidding against themselves.

"Even though we haven't had a lot of feedback from anybody wanting to jump in, you still have to go about it and do it the right way," Dumars said. "Even if you totally believe you are bidding against yourself, you can't try to low ball somebody. I won't do that."

Dumars has said other teams would have to convince Wallace he could win a championship for them, and be welcomed by their fans.

Detroit doesn't.

"He lived that," Dumars said.

Wallace was acquired in a three-team deal on Feb. 19 to help transform a contender into a champion. And he did.

Wallace's statistics were not always impressive — he averaged 13 points, 7.8 rebounds and two

blocks in the playoffs — but his impact almost always was.

The 6-foot-11, 230-pounder made a stingy defense one of the best in league history, and an average offense better.

Wallace averaged 16 points, 6.8 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 1.8 blocks last season, his ninth in the NBA.

Report: Magic GM receives death threats at his home

ORLANDO, Fla. — Orlando Magic General Manager John Weisbrod reportedly received written death threats at his home about trading two-time NBA scoring champion Tracy McGrady.

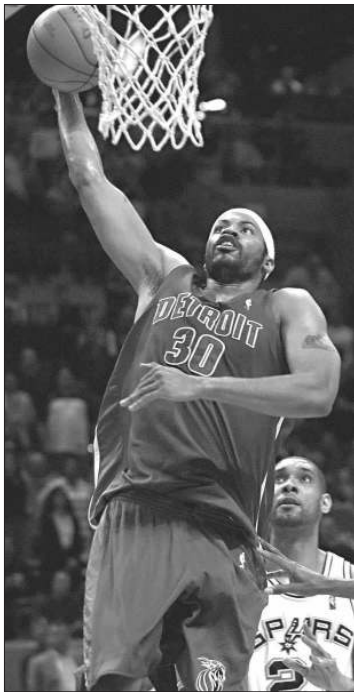
Florida Today reported Wednesday that Weisbrod received two such threats since mid-June, and was forced to check into a hotel under an alias for two nights last week.

On June 17, one week before the NBA Draft, Weisbrod found a threatening note taped to the front door of his home. He said he called Magic assistant general manager Scott Herring and went ahead with plans to take draft prospect Emeke Okafor to dinner.

Nearly two weeks later, on the day the Magic announced McGrady's trade to Houston, a death threat was scribbled on the glass door of the house with a grease marker, Weisbrod said.

"I get harassing correspondence all the time, but when it starts happening at your house, that raises the bar to a different level," said Weisbrod, a 33-year-old divorced father of one.

Weisbrod said the Magic notified the Orange County Sheriff's Office of the threats last week, but filed no official report because he wanted to keep the incidents "out of the public eye."



Forward Rasheed Wallace (30) met with team president Joe Dumars on Tuesday in the first face-to-face conversation the forward has had with the Pistons since helping them win the NBA title last month.

Owner Buss fiddling around while Lakers crumble

Reports that Lakers owner Jerry Buss is spending the week in Italy provided one of those details that sounds too good to be made up. Next, we'll find out the reason he went there is to take fiddling lessons.

So here's this for irony: The way things are going, there might not be enough left of the Lakers' dynasty to burn down by the time Buss gets back.

The guy he plans to rebuild the franchise around is facing trial on a sexual assault charge and mulling offers from other teams. The current centerpiece is still demanding to be traded. The coach with the best chance of talking both into staying just said he wasn't interested in the job. And the general manager Buss left behind to clean up the mess wasn't entrusted with a key to the front door.

On the plus side, the Lakers may have hired Ray Tomjanovich as coach.

Or maybe not.

Asked about a Houston television station's report that Tomjanovich has been offered the job, Lakers GM Mitch Kupchak said Tuesday, "There is not a deal to announce. We don't have a short at this time. We hope to have a coach in a coach at this time. If he becomes coach of the Los An-

Jim Litke



geles Lakers he would be a wonderful selection."

Tomjanovich would — but even he wouldn't be wonderful enough to win with a team that doesn't include Kobe Bryant and/or Shaquille O'Neal. Unfortunately, Kupchak had even less to say on the matter.

"Like many of our fans, I expect several sleepless nights until he actually makes his decision," he said about Bryant.

As for O'Neal, Kupchak added, "It is time to be patient. We are being patient."

The only thing the GM knew for certain was that Mike Krzyzewski was not leaving Duke to coach in Los Angeles.

"We felt if we could have brought him on board," Kupchak said, "it would have been a wonderful coup for this organization."

Coch K would have been wonderful, too, though not without Kobe and/or Shaq.

Courting him was a wonderful distraction the last few days, but ultimately that's all it was.

The suspenseful debate that accompa-

nied it, the one that centered on whether a successful college coach could move up to the next level, was a waste of time. The game is about players, at every level. So while Krzyzewski gave all the right reasons for hanging back — "The allure of coaching in college has no price," he said — the \$40 million the Lakers reportedly offered for five years would have been a lot tougher to turn down if both Los Angeles superstars were guaranteed to be on board.

The likelihood of either player sticking around grows less likely each day. Buss has made no secret of the fact that he wants it to be Kobe, but so far he has nothing to show for his loyalty.

Bryant hasn't tipped his hand, and he isn't even holding all the cards. No matter how many playing options Bryant chooses to explore, his future won't be decided until he stands trial in late August in Eagle County, Colo.

Where this leaves the Lakers is anybody's guess. The free-agent signing period is halfway over. Los Angeles still has to do something about O'Neal's trade demands. And the more desperate the Lakers become, the less likely Kupchak's competition is to bail him out. The few teams that

could have made a deal like that work are already pulling some pieces back.

On the plus side — did we mention? — the Lakers may have hired Tomjanovich. And that could yet turn out to be a stroke of genius.

When his name first surfaced, before the Coach K story line developed legs, the consensus was that Tomjanovich was the perfect candidate because he'd won two rings coaching the Rockets and proved he could handle superstars of both the old- and new-school variety. Now that it looks like the next Lakers coach will need luck to have the chance to handle either, Tomjanovich might be an ever better fit.

He's been around the league long enough and he's lost enough to know that you make do with what you're handed, even when it isn't much.

Coch K was Bryant's hand-picked choice to replace the coach he chased off, Phil Jackson. But Krzyzewski would never have been comfortable knowing he owed his job to one of his players. And sadly, that's what it means to be a "player's coach" in the NBA some days.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at: jlitke@ap.org

Armstrong moves into overall lead

Five-time champ at front of field after blazing time trial

BY JOHN LEICESTER

The Associated Press

ARRAS, France — Lance Armstrong took the overall lead Wednesday for the first time at this year's Tour de France after one of the fastest time trials in race history.

His U.S. Postal Service squad dominated the rain-soaked event, giving the Texan the yellow jersey in his bid for a record sixth-straight title in cycling's showcase race.

"It really was a special day for the team," Armstrong said. "The team was incredible. The rhythm was perfect. It's incredible."

He smiled broadly as he crossed the line, riding a special aerodynamic bike and wearing an aerodynamic helmet and suit. Armstrong holds a 36-second lead over key rival Tyler Hamilton, a fellow American and former teammate.

Jan Ulrich, a five-time Tour runner-up and second again to Armstrong last year, finished fourth and is 55 seconds off the champion's overall time.

Other challengers were also left trailing: Italy's Ivan Basso is 1 minute, 17 seconds behind Armstrong overall, and Spain's Roberto Heras is 1 minute, 45 seconds back.

Armstrong said his team started slowly but picked up speed.

"That's the sign of a great team," he said. "We fought hard."



Lance Armstrong, second from left, and the U.S. Postal team won the fourth stage Wednesday with the third-fastest time trial in Tour de France history, propelling Armstrong into the overall lead.

The blue-clad Postal squad celebrated with hugs at the finish line. Armstrong raised his arms as he accepted the yellow jersey that in the past five years he has come to call his own.

Ulrich, the 1997 Tour winner, entered the race as Armstrong's most feared rival. His T-Mobile squad was more than a minute behind.

New rules designed to limit the

advantage that top teams gain in the event protected Ulrich to some extent. In all, the German lost 40 seconds to Armstrong's team — still a severe setback.

Despite rain that soaked the 40-mile course from Cambrai to Arras, Armstrong's team still averaged more than 32 mph — in the third fastest time in the history of the event.

Armstrong will still be looking

to the later mountain stages and individual time trials to put away his rivals for good. But the advantage gained in the team event was a major step toward yet another title.

Armstrong and five teammates are among the top seven riders in the overall standings — a clear sign of strength. George Hincapie is No. 2, 10 seconds behind. He is followed by No. 3 Floyd Landis,

91st TOUR DE FRANCE

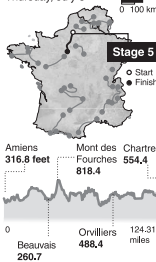
A tour of the North

The Tour continues from Amiens, which first hosted a stage in 1932 to Chartres, making its first appearance as a stage town.

Stage 5

Thursday, July 8

0 100 mi
0 100 km



Source: Tour de France

AP

No. 4, Jose Azevedo, No. 5, Jose Luis Rubiera and No. 7, Viatcheslav Ekinov.

The Postal squad had the advantage of starting last of the 21 teams. It also benefited from a stop in the rain that had doused the course, turning the roads slick and causing several teams problems. There were several crashes.

The Postal team worked right from the Tour's start — the time trial Saturday — to position itself as the squad to start last.

That enabled the team to see how others fared on the route and judge the pace.

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U.S. men best-ever 7th in new FIFA rankings

The Associated Press

ZURICH, Switzerland — The United States advanced to an all-time high No. 7 in FIFA's rankings Wednesday while Greece jumped 21 spots to No. 14 after its dazzling run to the European Championship title.

Brazil remained No. 1 for the 25th straight month, and France and Spain stayed at second and third.

The United States twice had climbed as high as eighth — in September 2002 and again in May. The Americans beat Grenada in a home-and-home series in June to reach the semifinals of World Cup qualifying in its region of North and Central America and the Caribbean.

Greece was ranked as low as 59th as recently as March 2002. It climbed "possibly the greatest ever number of places in the upper reaches of the ranking," soccer's governing body said.

It's 10 victory over Portugal on Sunday in the Euro 2004 final gave Greece its first major title. The rankings are a computer calculation of the relative strength of national teams based on results the previous eight

Sports briefs

years. The Czech Republic, which lost to Greece in the Euro 2004

semifinals, advanced seven spots to fourth. Germany, which did not win a game at Euro 2004, dropped to 12th, tied with Portugal.

The Netherlands, which reached the Euro semis, remained fifth while Mexico dropped two places to sixth.

R. Schumacher signs contract with Toyota

COLOGNE, Germany — Formula One driver Ralf Schumacher signed a three-year contract with Toyota on Wednesday and will be leaving BMW-Williams at the end of the season after five years.

Schumacher's move means Williams has two new drivers next season. Juan Pablo Montoya is switching to McLaren-Mercedes.

Toyota's two drivers this season are Olivier Panis of France and Cristiano da Matta of Brazil.

Schumacher has won six races for Williams.



U.S. Olympic swimming hopeful Michael Phelps has set his sights on Mark Spitz's record seven gold medals.

Phelps out to hit the mark

U.S. swimmer wants to top Spitz's record

BY PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

LONG BEACH, Calif. — Michael Phelps wants to make history. The quest began Wednesday in a temporary pool set up in a parking lot.

Phelps revealed that he will swim six individual events at the U.S. Olympic swimming trials, setting his sights on breaking Mark Spitz's 32-year-old record of seven gold medals at the Athens Games.

It's a formidable task, one that Phelps will try to pull off swimming three strokes and the individual medley against world-class rivals who specialize in only one.

But the 19-year-old from Baltimore doesn't seem concerned that he's spreading himself too thin. Besides the individual events, he also hopes to swim two or three relays at Athens.

"I'm extremely confident," Phelps said Tuesday. "I want to be the first person to try it."

The eight-day trials are being held for the first time in a portable pool, set up in a parking lot next to the Long Beach Arena. The facility was tested a couple of weeks ago at the Janet Evans Invitational, where several swimmers complained about less-than-ideal conditions. At least one change — tightening the lane ropes — has been made in hopes of providing a faster pool for the trials.

No matter what the conditions, Phelps will be the star of the show.

"We could be on the verge of history," said Lenny Krayzelburg, who won three Olympic gold medals in Sydney. "It's great for the whole sport because he brings all the attention and popularity."

Which is exactly the idea, Phelps said he's looking beyond just breaking a hallowed record; he wants to transform swimming

into more than just a once-every-four-years sport in his home country.

"One of my big goals is to change the sport," Phelps said. "I want to bring more attention to the sport. One of the ways to do is to do something no one has ever done."

At the trials, Phelps will attempt to make the team in the 200- and 400-meter individual medley, which is comprised of all four strokes (freestyle, butterfly, breaststroke and backstroke). He also will swim the 100 and 200 fly, the 200 free and the 200 backstroke.

Phelps will be in the pool for seven straight days, including five when he's got to take part in both the morning and evening sessions.

"He's got a difficult task ahead of him," said Ian Crocker, who upset Phelps while setting a world record in the 100 fly at last year's world championships. "There's a lot of people standing in his way."

Phelps must get through a couple of especially daunting days.

On Sunday, he has the 200 back and 200 IM prelims in the morning, followed by the 200 back and 200 IM semis in the evening.

The next day, he's got the 100 fly prelims in the morning, then comes back at night for three events: the fly semis, along with finals in 200 back and 200 IM.

"It's extremely tough," said Crocker, who got used to swimming multiple events at the same meet during his NCAA career at the University of Texas. "By the time you're done with drug testing at night, you feel like you're back up for prelims the next days. Then you've got warm downs, warm ups and all the media stuff. It's not easy."

The Olympics would be even tougher with the relays thrown into the mix. But Phelps' coach,

Bob Bowman, felt the time was right for Phelps to take the ultimate step.

Bowman began mapping out this schedule nearly a year ago, not long after Phelps won six medals — including four golds — and broke five world records at the world championships in Barcelona.

"I don't want to limit him," Bowman said. "I don't know if he'll ever be in a position like this again. He's fit. He's young enough to have the ability to bounce back. His body is in a good place. When he gets bigger and stronger, it's going to be hard to do the 400 IM, then come back and do something else."

Phelps isn't trying to do something that's hopelessly beyond his means. He holds world records in the 200 fly and both individual medley events. He also held the record in the 100 fly until Crocker's stunning victory in Barcelona — a loss that still motivates Phelps, who keeps a picture of Crocker on the wall beside his bed.

Phelps will be challenged in the 200 backstroke by countryman Aaron Peirsol, who holds the world record. But Phelps swam the fastest time in the world this year, just .15 seconds off Peirsol's mark.

The 200 free could be the most intriguing event of all — Phelps vs. Australian star Ian Thorpe.

Phelps holds the American record of 1 minute, 45.99 seconds, but his best time is still nearly 2 seconds behind the Thorpedo's world standard of 44.06.

The war of words already has started. Thorpe advised the American to forget about breaking Spitz's record, saying he doesn't think anyone can win seven swimming gold medals in an Olympics.

"I've heard that all before," Phelps said. "He's saying he doesn't think it's possible for himself. But it's not impossible. Spitz did it. Obviously, it's possible."

Quenneville to coach Avs

The Associated Press

DENVER — Former St. Louis Blues coach Joel Quenneville has been hired by Colorado to replace Tony Granato.

Granato, who coached the Avalanche since 2002, will revert to his former position as assistant coach, team spokesman Hayne Ellis said early Wednesday.

Quenneville previously was an Avalanche assistant under Marc Crawford in 1995-96 and played a role in the franchise's first Stanley Cup championship.

Quenneville was the Blues' coach from January 1997 until this past February, when he was fired during a slump in which his team won four of 16 games.

Kings select Conroy from Blues

LOS ANGELES — Unrestricted free agent Craig Conroy, who helped the Calgary Flames reach the Stanley Cup finals, agreed to

NHL briefs

a four-year, \$12.6 million contract with the Los Angeles Kings on Tuesday.

The 32-year-old center had eight goals and a team-leading 39 assists in the regular season.

He has 118 goals and 222 assists in 609 regular-season games and was a finalist in 1998 and 2002 for the Selke Trophy, awarded to the NHL's best defensive forward.

Conroy thought he was on the verge of signing with St. Louis before Blues owner Bill Lamar refused to sign off on the deal.

Coyotes sign D O'Donnell

GLENDAL, Ariz. — The Phoenix Coyotes signed free-agent defenseman Sam O'Donnell to a \$6 million, three-year contract Tuesday. O'Donnell had one goal and 10 assists last season while playing every game for the Boston Bruins.

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Ben Curtis is looking forward to defending his British Open title.

British Open champ builds up defense

Curtis looking for consistency

BY BRIAN CREIGHTON
The Associated Press

LUSS, Scotland — Ben Curtis didn't expect to win the British Open last year. But he plans to enjoy defending his title.

Curtis is preparing for the Scottish Open at Loch Lomond starting Thursday. But he's already

looking ahead to his title defense at Royal Troon next week.

"It's going to be an exciting week," Curtis said Tuesday. "It's going to be a lot of fun to go back as defending champion. Everybody wants to be that at least once in their life. I think especially as it's in a major."

"You know, hopefully I'll go out

"Hopefully I'll go out there and win again, but if not, it's always a fun experience to defend."

Ben Curtis

Defending British Open champ

there and win again, but if not, it's always a fun experience to defend."

Curtis was virtually unheard of

outside the U.S. Tour when he won last year. What emerged after his triumph at Royal St. George's was that he arrived the week before and had three full practice rounds.

This year he won't get to Troon until Sunday night — unless he misses the cut at Loch Lomond.

"I'll rest up Monday and probably walk all 18 and maybe play nine just to get a feel for it," he said, adding that he's played the course twice this year already.

As much as anything, this week is about getting acclimated.

"You come over here more than anything to get adjusted to the time. Even if the weather is not good, it's still good to come over and get used to it."

"If you come over Monday morning to Troon and it's cold and in the States it's been 90 degrees, it's hard to get used to quickly."

"With a week, your body adjusts to it a little bit."

He is not unduly optimistic about this week.

"Obviously you come out here to win. But I think more than anything I'd like to have a good finish. More than anything, I just want to get the putter and driver working. Last week I drove the ball poorly."

"I putted well one day, badly the next. So I'll work on the putting and driving the ball. That will be fine."

He shot rounds of 67-78 to miss the cut last week at the Western Open.

"It was funny. The first day I scored a lot better than I actually played," he said. "I made a lot of long putts and got up and down quite a few times. On Friday I just didn't do it. I kept putting myself in tough positions."

"It was one of those freaky things that happen in golf. I could have shot 72-73 and had the same score. But I have been playing fairly well up to that point."

Curtis said his aim was to become a more consistent player. He can feel the progress, despite missing five cuts in the U.S., and one in Europe until two months ago.

"Since the Masters it has been better," he said. "I've had a lot of good rounds but I've also had some mediocre rounds. But even the ones I thought were bad were still right around par."

Other than the Open, that's been about the best I've played."

Before his victory last year, Curtis had to watch his spending.

"I wasn't poor by any means but it was a little more difficult than now," he said. "Now the day before you can go and purchase a ticket. You don't have to worry about saving yourself a 100 bucks or whatever."

"If you make a spur of the moment decision, look it up, book it and go."



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SPORTS



Bryant's legal troubles
in Colorado not discouraging
Nuggets' pursuit, Page 40

Ivan the terrible

Opposing pitchers
fear AL batting leader
Ivan Rodriguez like
no other catcher
in baseball history

BY JACK O'CONNELL
The Hartford Courant

NEW YORK

The Rodriguez whose name is atop the batting leaders in the American League is not the guy playing third base for the Yankees.

It is the Rodriguez whose first name makes one think of Cossacks, answers to Carlton Fisk's old nickname and is best known in New England as the player who beat out Pedro Martinez for AL MVP five years ago.

Oh, one more thing. Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez is a catcher — not a typical position for batting champions. If Rodriguez finishes the season where he is now, he would be the first AL catcher to win a batting crown.

Only two catchers have won batting titles. The Reds' Bubba Hargrave led the National League with a .353 average in 1926. And Hall of Famer Ernie Lombardi, perhaps the slowest runner in baseball history, led the NL in hitting twice, batting .342 for the Reds in 1938 and .330 for the Boston Braves four years later.

"You know he didn't get any 'leg' hits," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "I didn't either."

As a former batting champion (1971) who had caught earlier in his career, Torre fully appreciates what Rodriguez is doing this year.

"The physical demands of the position are such that it is amazing to see the numbers he's putting up," Torre said.

SEE RODRIGUEZ ON PAGE 37



Detroit catcher Ivan Rodriguez is batting .371, tops in the American League.

AP photo

Fashion statement: Armstrong dons leader's yellow jersey, blisters field in time trial

Page 41



Red Sox happy to be home after struggling on road; Gagne starts new streak

Page 39



Virginia Tech suspends QB Vick after another brush with law

Page 36

